Do you
believe in
Magic?
In a
Young Girl's
Heart...

Shoujo Magic

If You Listen Closely
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If You Listen Closely

Aoi Hiiragi

RIBON MASCOT COMICS

If You Listen Closely

HIIRAGI, Aoi

515

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INTRODUCTION

"As a child,
I always preferred
picture books to toys.
In elementary and
middle school, I looked
forward each week to
visiting the library.
The whole time,
I knew that someday
I wanted to write a
story about a girl like
me who loved books."
That is the message
Ms. Hiiragi sends, and
this is her tale filled
with dreams.
There's a boy Shizuku
Tsukishima longs to
meet, but.....!?

LOVE
R-M-C
9002

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If You Listen Closely

Whispers of the Heart

Aoi Hiiragi

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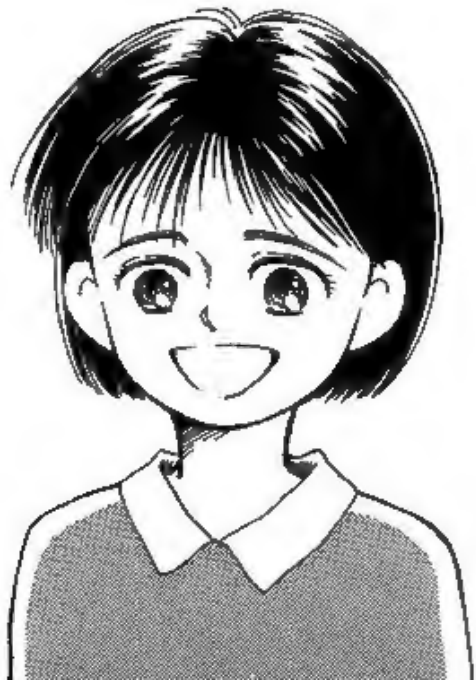

If you listen closely . . .
to the sound of the wind,
to the sound of the rain,
to the whispers of the stars,
and to their words . . .

If You Listen Closely

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I first noticed his name one day in August.
TSUKISHIMA
Yasunari
Ayako
Shio
Shizuku
Hehe heh
SHIBUYA
Flute of Lucid Forest
AH, NOW THAT WAS AN INTERESTING BOOK.
SHUT
YAMAHARA JUNIOR SERIES
BLAZING BATTLE

I'd read all the books I had borrowed from the library.
It was raining for the third day straight.
Rabbit's Adventure
I WONDER WHEN I DROPPED THIS...
HM?
KONK...
AWW...

NAKAI, Marino
FUKUDA, Takayuki
NARUSE, Atsuko
AMASAWA, Seiji
TSUKISHIMA, Shizuku
Prefectural Library Lending Slip
Robot's Adventure
Out
Name
Return
6/10 NAKAI, Marino 6 17
6/17 FUKUDA, Takayuki 6 26
7/1 NARUSE, Atsuko 7. 15
7/20 AMASAWA, Seiji 7. 27
8/15 TSUKISHIMA, Shizuku 8. 22
IT WAS HERE. .
Flip
Flip
"I recognize that name."
That's what I thought.
Prefectural Library Lending Slip
Robot's Adventure
Out
Name
Return
6/20 ABE, Yukio 6. 27
7/20 AMASAWA, Seiji 7 05
7/6 UTO- HIROKO 7 13
7/11 UENO, Hiroo 7. 28
7/16 TANI Yuuichi 8. 06
8/15 Tsukishima Shizuku 8. 22
Pour
He's checking out all these same books before me!

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Shizuku!
HEAVENS, THE WEATHER OUTSIDE IS BEAUTIFUL. HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO SLEEP?
Come on!
OWIE, OWIE, OW! THAT HURTS!
WHERE'S SIS?
SHE'S ALREADY LEFT SHE HAD SOMETHING TO DO AT SCHOOL
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT SO MUCH THEN MAYBE YOU'LL GET UP SOONER. WEREN'T YOU GOING TO MEET YUUKO?
YOU'RE BEING MEAN.
That hurt.

BOY, IT'S HOT
—It's August
Summer vacation.
beeeee
beez
beeeee

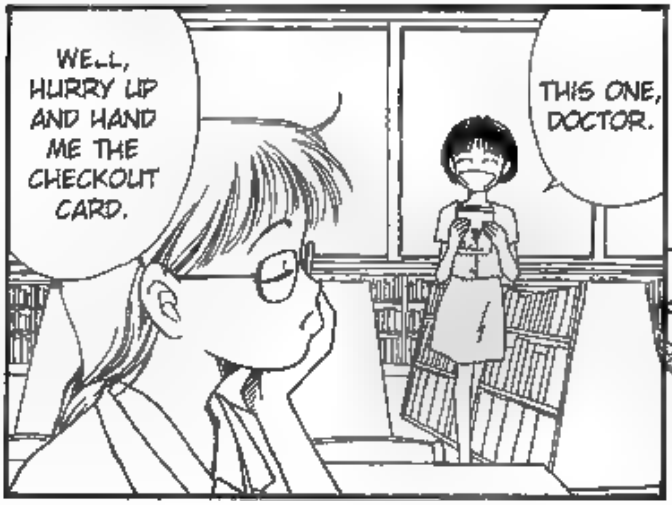
Shoujo Magic

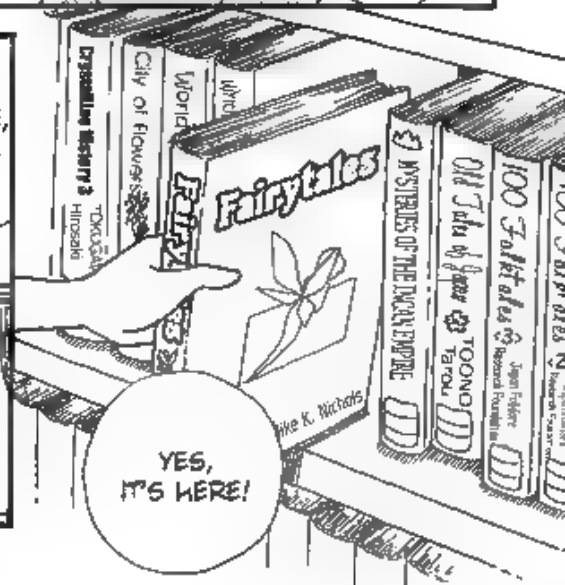
HMM? IT'S NOTHING WEIRD, IS IT?
CAN I ASK YOU A FAVOR, PRETTY PLEEEASE, DOCTOR?

TSUKISHIMA, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

LIBRARY

DON'T MAKE ME WAIT HERE ALL DAY.
YOU DO LOVE BOOKS, TSUKISHIMA. NOW, WHICH ONE IS IT?
BUT I'VE READ ALL THE BOOKS I CHECKED OUT.
THIS COULDN'T WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT LIBRARY LENDING DAY?
Now, where was it?


WELL, HURRY UP AND HAND ME THE CHECKOUT CARD.
THIS ONE, DOCTOR.


Fairy tales
MYSTERIES OF THE INCAN EMPIRE
100 Folktales
Old Tales of Japan
TOONO Tarou
YES, IT'S HERE!

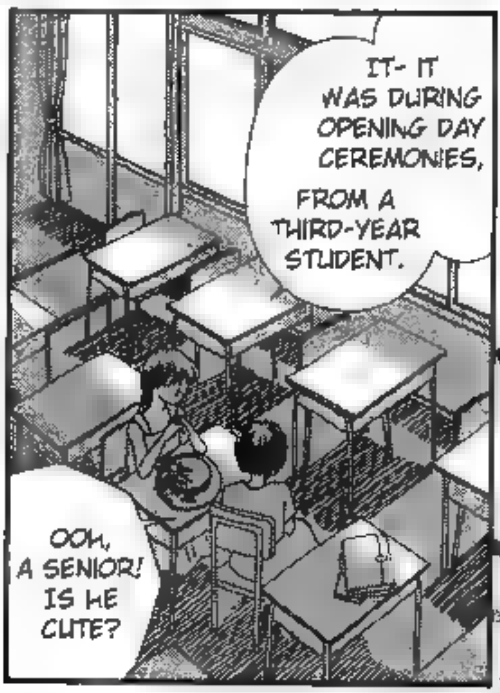
WHAT'S THIS?
Field Front Junior High
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU. ♡
Field Front Junior
Fairytales
Mike K. Nichols
Out
Name
Return
62
5/14
AMASAWA, Kouji
5/21
The name is slightly different.
WELL, THE THING IS THAT IT'S A REALLY RARE BOOK. NOT EVEN THE PREFECTURAL LIBRARY HAS IT.
GOOD GRIEF, WOULD YOU LOOK AT THIS? ONLY ONE PERSON HAS CHECKED THIS BOOK OUT BEFORE.
NOW WHAT?
PLUCK
CAN I ASK WHAT KIND OF PERSON HE IS? "THAT AMASAWA BOY"...
HAHAHA! NOT ONLY THAT, BUT THE ONE WHO CHECKED IT OUT WAS THAT AMASAWA BOY. THIS BOOK IS DEFINITELY AN ODDITY.
—Let's see, now checked out since August 19th of

Shoujo Magic

ECCEN-TRIC . ...
IF I HAD TO PUT IT SUCCINTLY, I'D SAY HE WAS "ECCENTRIC."
YOUR GRADES WOULDN'T HAVE OVERLAPPED. HE'S ALREADY GRADUATED.
Shizuku!
BANG!
NOW, NOW, HARADA. THERE'S NO NEED FOR A SCENE.
THE ONE BLOWING YOUR FRECKLES OUT OF PROPORTION IS YOU.
YOU'VE KEPT ME WAITING IN THE SUN FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES, AND NOW IT'S JUST GOING TO GIVE ME MORE FRECKLES!
AH, GEEZ, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? YOU SAID WE WERE GOING TO MEET OUTSIDE AT ELEVEN!
SOR-... SORRY.. YULIKO.
YES, I KNOW, I KNOW. NOW, WHY DON'T YOU TWO GO DISCUSS IT SOMEWHERE ELSE?
DOCTOR! HOW CAN YOU JOKE LIKE THAT? THESE FRECKLES ARE A SERIOUS CONCERN TO ME!

A love letter!?

1 – 5



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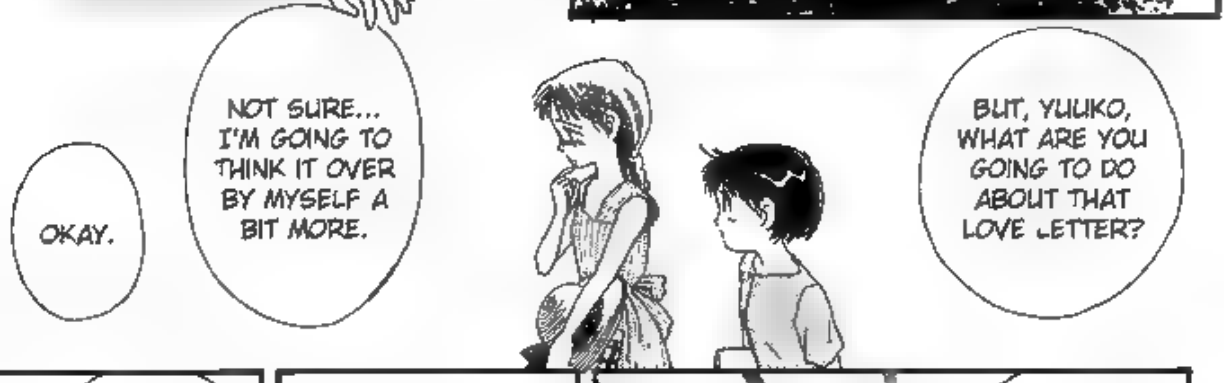
IS THERE ANYONE YOU LIKE?
SHIZUKU ……
UH……
I CAN'T EXACTLY SAY… THAT I "LIKE" HIM OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT, THOUGH.
ANYBODY?
SORT OF.
BUT THERE IS SOMEBODY I'VE NOTICED.
AMASAWA, Seiji

YEAH... I SUPPOSE.
HELLO
Or a little kid or some old guy
FOR ALL YOU KNOW, HE COULD BE LIKE THIS.
THE THING IS...
HUH!? SHIZUKU, THAT'S REALLY CHANCY. I MEAN, MAYBE HE'S A COOL GUY, BUT——
YOU'RE ALREADY INTERESTED IN SOMEONE ELSE...
THAT'S IT, ISN'T IT!
YUUKO...
I'M...
UM-...
I- I-
BLUSH
Hey, Tsukishima—
SUGIMURA!
UM... WELL... IT'S SU- ..... SU-... . SU-.....
I CAN READ YOUR FACE LIKE AN OPEN BOOK! COME ON, COME ON, TELL ME WHO!

AH...
TSUKISHIMA! CAN YOU GET MY DUFFLE BAG FOR ME?
YUUKO?
IT'S THE BLUE SPORTS BAG OVER THERE, TSUKISHIMA!
HEY, THAT'S HITTING BELOW THE BELT. WAIT AND SEE, I'LL BE A REGULAR NEXT YEAR!
PIPE DOWN! GEEZ, YOU'RE ONLY A BAT BOY!
.....
YUUKO?
WHAT'S WITH HER?
SLIDE
Tap Tap Tap Tap Tap Tap Tap Tap Tap

I CAN'T BELIEVE I... RAN AWAY LIKE THAT...
WHAT IF HE REALIZED JUST NOW?
SO IT'S SUGIMURA, HUH.
TSK, YUUKO! I WISH YOU'D TOLD ME SOONER.
I GUARANTEE YOU HE DIDN'T. HE'S TOO SLOW ON THE UPTAKE FOR THAT.


OKAY.
NOT SURE... I'M GOING TO THINK IT OVER BY MYSELF A BIT MORE.
BUT, YUUKO, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT THAT LOVE LETTER?

NO WORRIES. LATER.
I'LL SEE YOU LATER, YUUKO SORRY I WASN'T MUCH HELP!
OH, NO, MY BOOK!
I LEFT IT BACK IN THE CLASS-ROOM!

1 — 5

I wonder who it could be.
There's someone in there.
CLACK
Who's that?
I don't know him. He's not in my class.

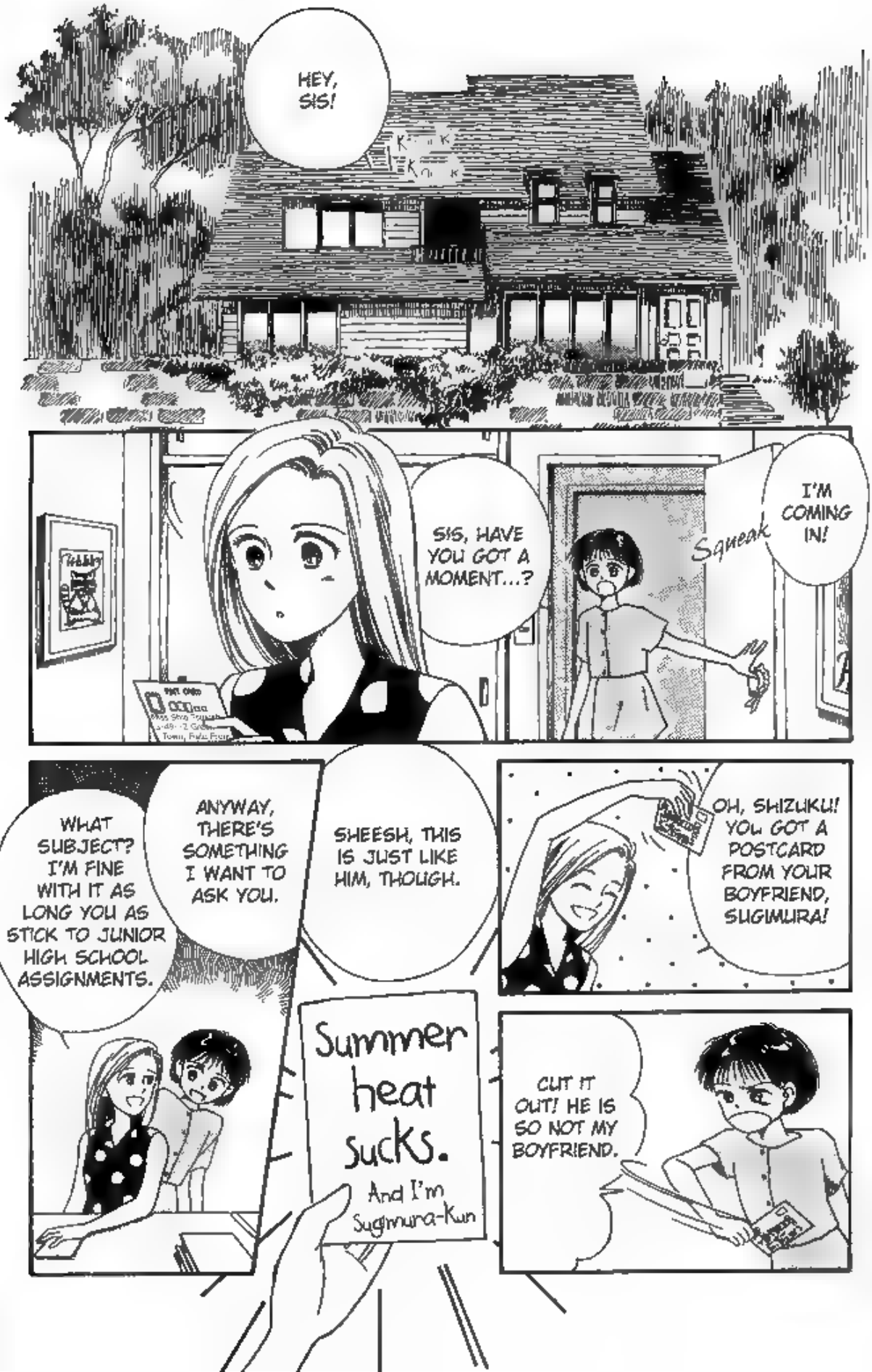
Hey, that's my book!
Slide..

FLASH
Huh?
What was that about?
Eek, he's scary—!
WHAT?
UM . .

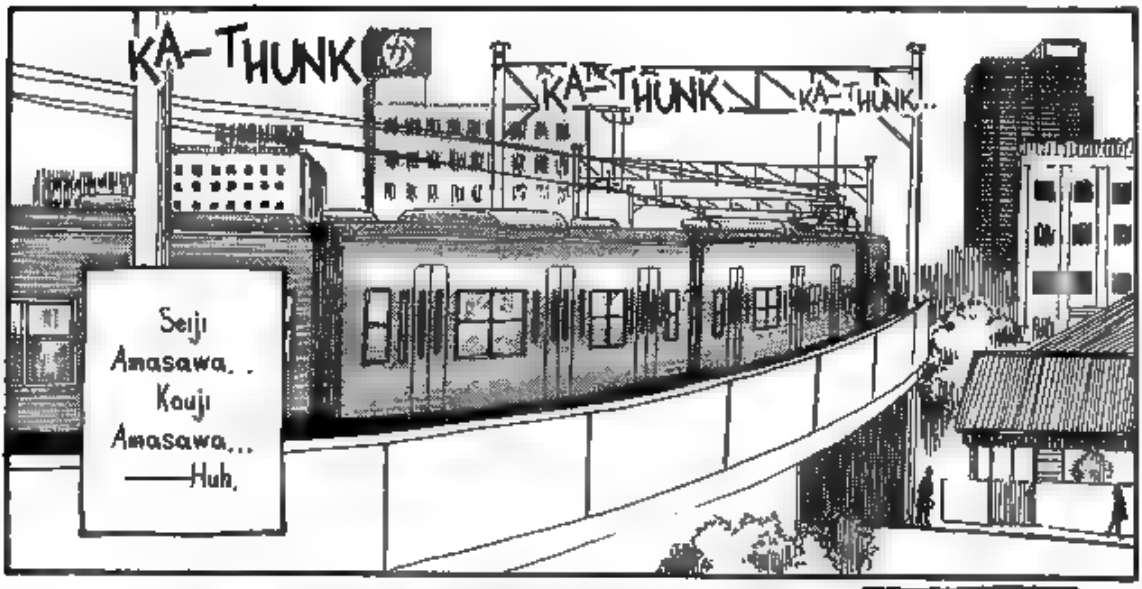
TH-... THAT BOOK...
OH... YOU'RE THE ONE WHO LEFT IT BEHIND?
Fairytales
eek!
HEY-...
HOW DO YOU... KNOW MY NAME...?
CATCH! SHIZUKU TSUKI-SHIMA.
wishhh
YEAH, HOW DO I?

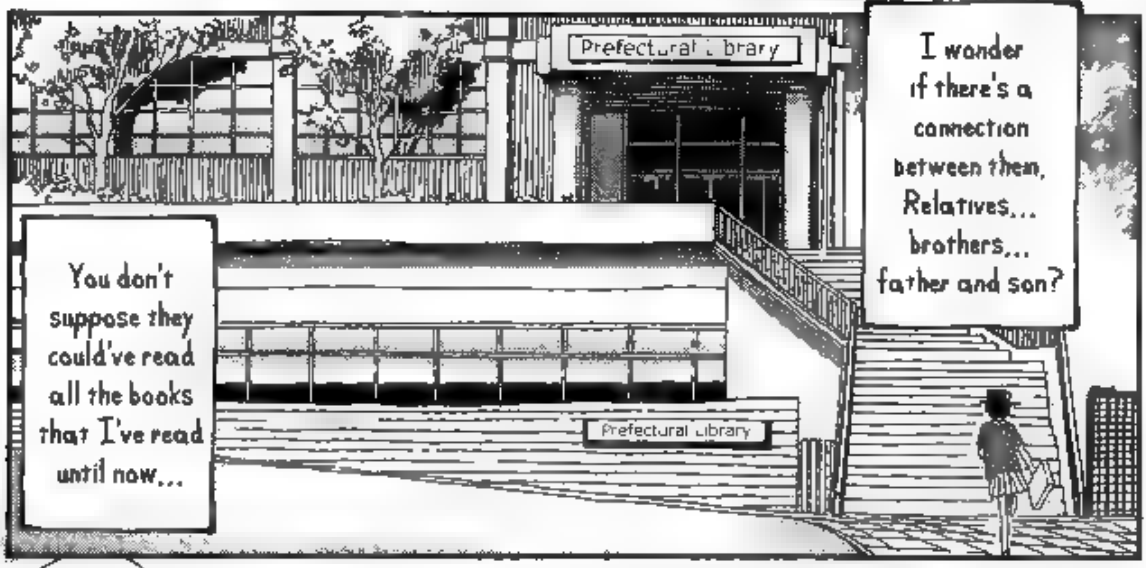
OH... THE CHECKOUT CARD!
Upsy daisy
CLACK
THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS FAIRIES.
AND FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH,
SLAM
Why didn't he just MIND HIS OWN BUSINESS?
What was THAT all about?

What! What! What's his problem!?
...Okay, he was kind of cute,
.....BUT
For what it's worth, there's no such thing as fairies.
I hate him,
hate him,
HATE HIM!!
hate him,
WHAT A JERK!


HEY, SIS!
SIS, HAVE YOU GOT A MOMENT...?
Squeak
I'M COMING IN!
WHAT SUBJECT? I'M FINE WITH IT AS LONG YOU AS STICK TO JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ASSIGNMENTS.
ANYWAY, THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO ASK YOU.
SHEESH, THIS IS JUST LIKE HIM, THOUGH.
OH, SHIZUKU! YOU GOT A POSTCARD FROM YOUR BOYFRIEND, SUGIMURA!
Summer heat sucks.
And I'm Sugimura-Kun
CUT IT OUT! HE IS SO NOT MY BOYFRIEND.

Hey
ACTUALLY, THAT'S NOT IT...
I pray that you are doing well during this stifling summer heat.
Kouji Amasawa
SIS.....
WHERE DID YOU GET THIS CARD FROM?
This doesn't make any sense.
.....HMM.
AN OLD JUNIOR HIGH CLASSMATE OF MINE SENT IT.
OH, THIS? IT'S PRETTY, ISN'T IT?
HE WAS REALLY INTO PHOTOGRAPHY. HE WAS GOOD AT IT, TOO. AN ALL-AROUND GREAT GUY.
I get a totally different impression from what Dr. Kousaka said about him.
So he likes photography, reads books about fairies, and is an all-around great eccentric...

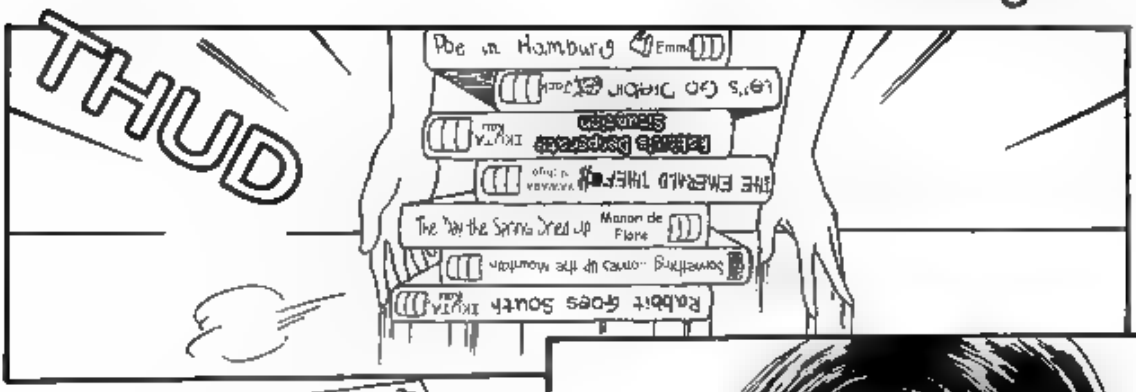

KA-THUNK
KA-THUNK
KA-THUNK...
Seiji Amasawa... Kouji Amasawa... ——Huh.

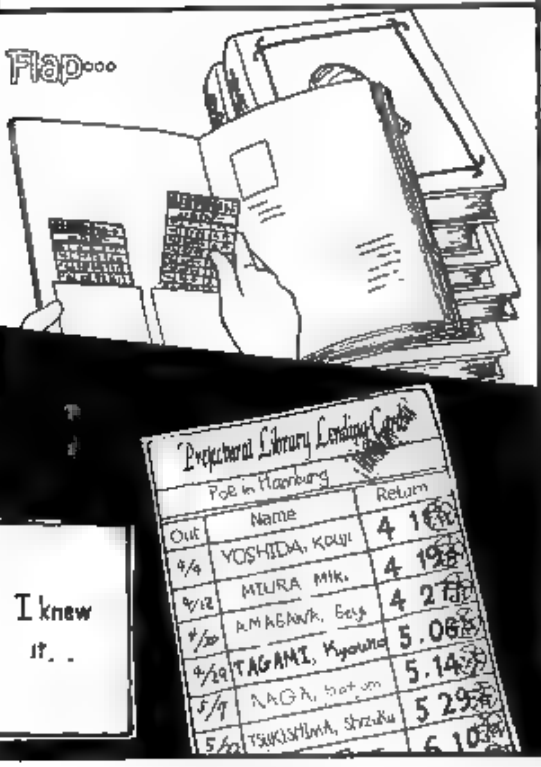

Prefectural Library
I wonder if there's a connection between them. Relatives... brothers... father and son?
You don't suppose they could've read all the books that I've read until now...
Prefectural Library

YOU FORGOT YOUR LUNCH, DAD.
SHIZUKU.

HEY, MR. LIBRARIAN!

YOU'VE FINISHED READING THEM ALREADY?
SORRY ABOUT THAT.
IT'S OKAY. I HAD TO RETURN SOME BOOKS, ANYWAY.
OOPS, SO I DID. JUST A MINUTE, I'M COMING DOWN.
THE NEXT VOLUME IN THE RABBIT SERIES AND JIM AND THE PUPPET THEATER.
HAHA. I EXPECTED AS MUCH.
YUP.
AND YOU'RE GOING TO CHECK OUT SOME MORE TODAY AS WE..., I BET.
I WILL, DAD.
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS TAKE IT ONE STEP AT A TIME...
UUGH- I CRINGE AT JUST THE MENTION OF IT.
SO I ASSUME YOU'VE FINISHED YOUR SUMMER VACATION HOMEWORK?





I knew it. .

His name is in almost every book I've read!

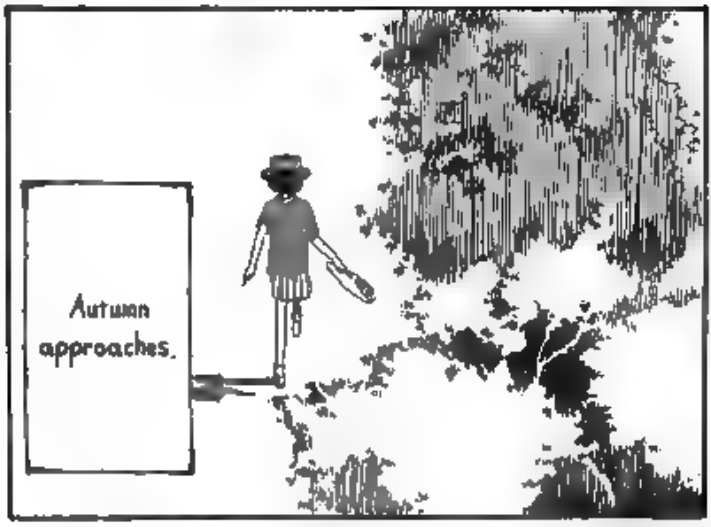
Incredible ..

I want to meet him.

MIURA,
AMASAWA, Seiji
TAGAMI, Kyouto

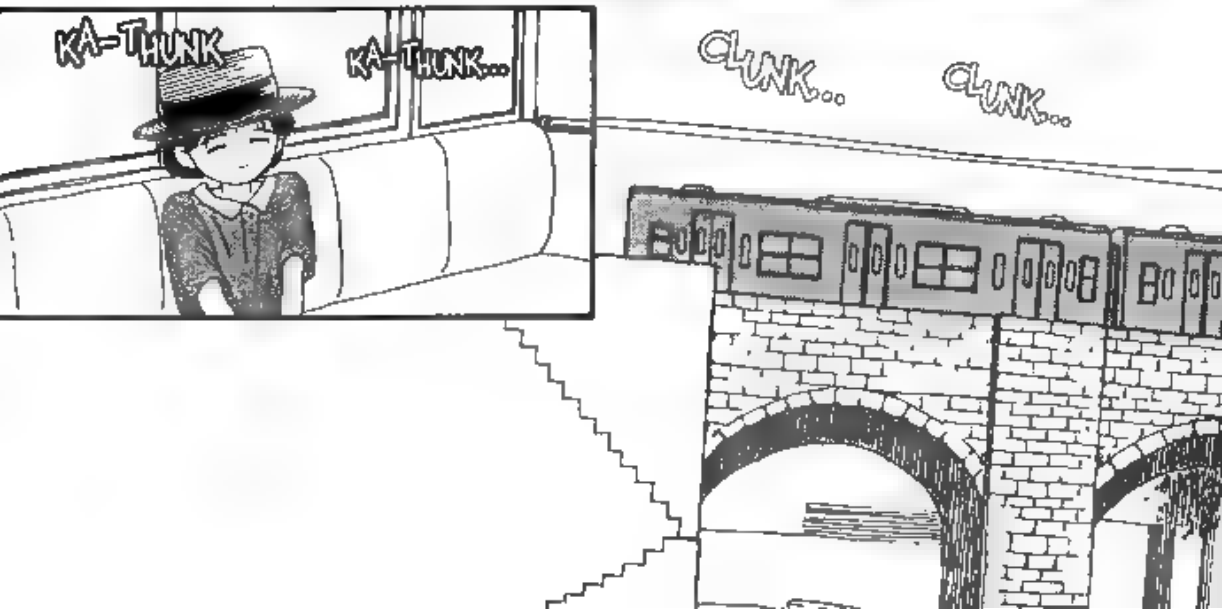
I wonder what kind of person he is.

RUSTLE
RUSTLE


Autumn approaches.

Beyond the glass, the wind whispers.

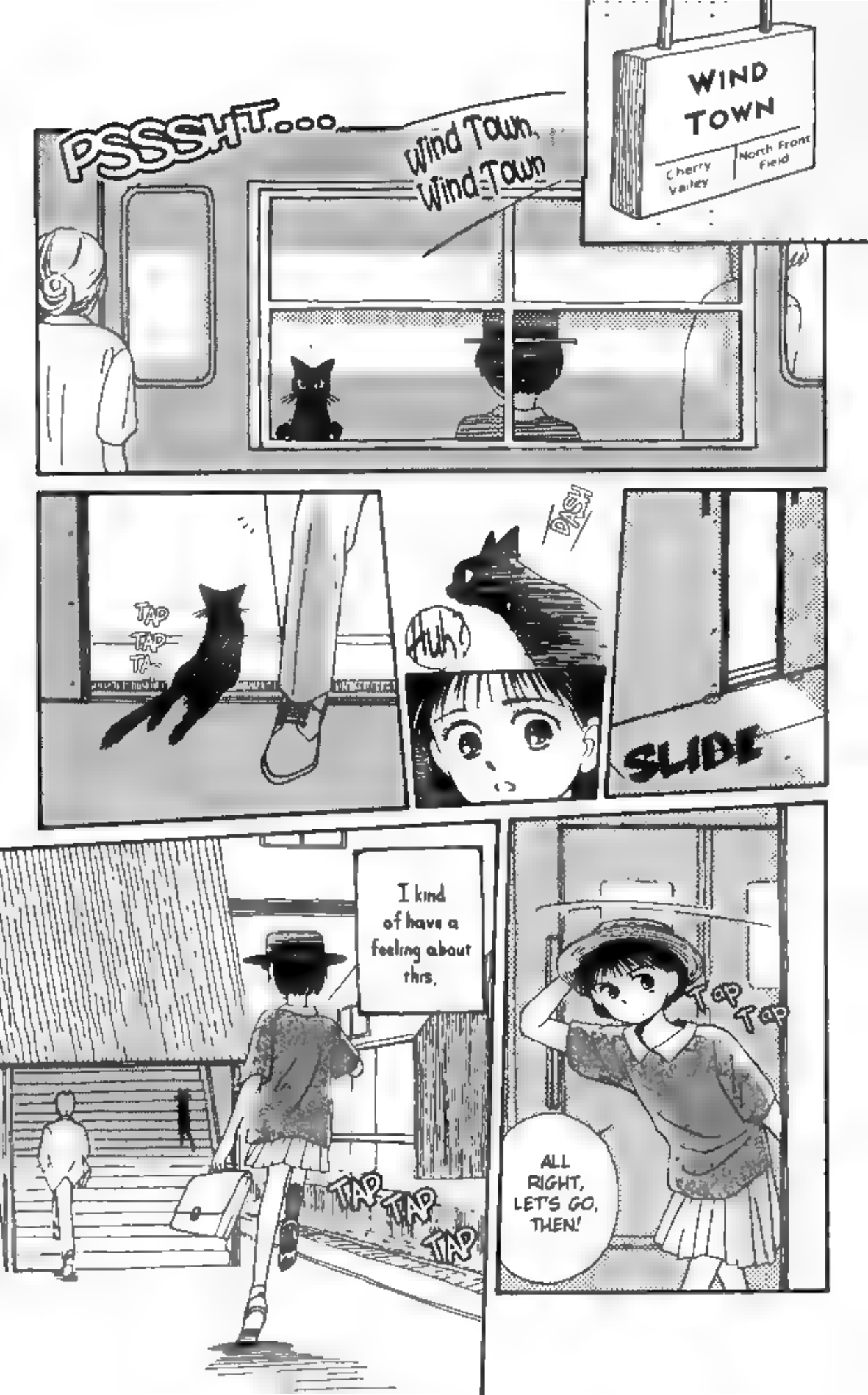
KA-THUNK
KA-THUNK...


CLUNK...
CLUNK...

KA-THUNK...
KA-THUNK...
KA-THUNK...
A cat!?
POP
PEER
PEER
Did someone bring him onto the train?
Stroll...
KA-THUNK...
KA-THUNK...
WHA-
HOP

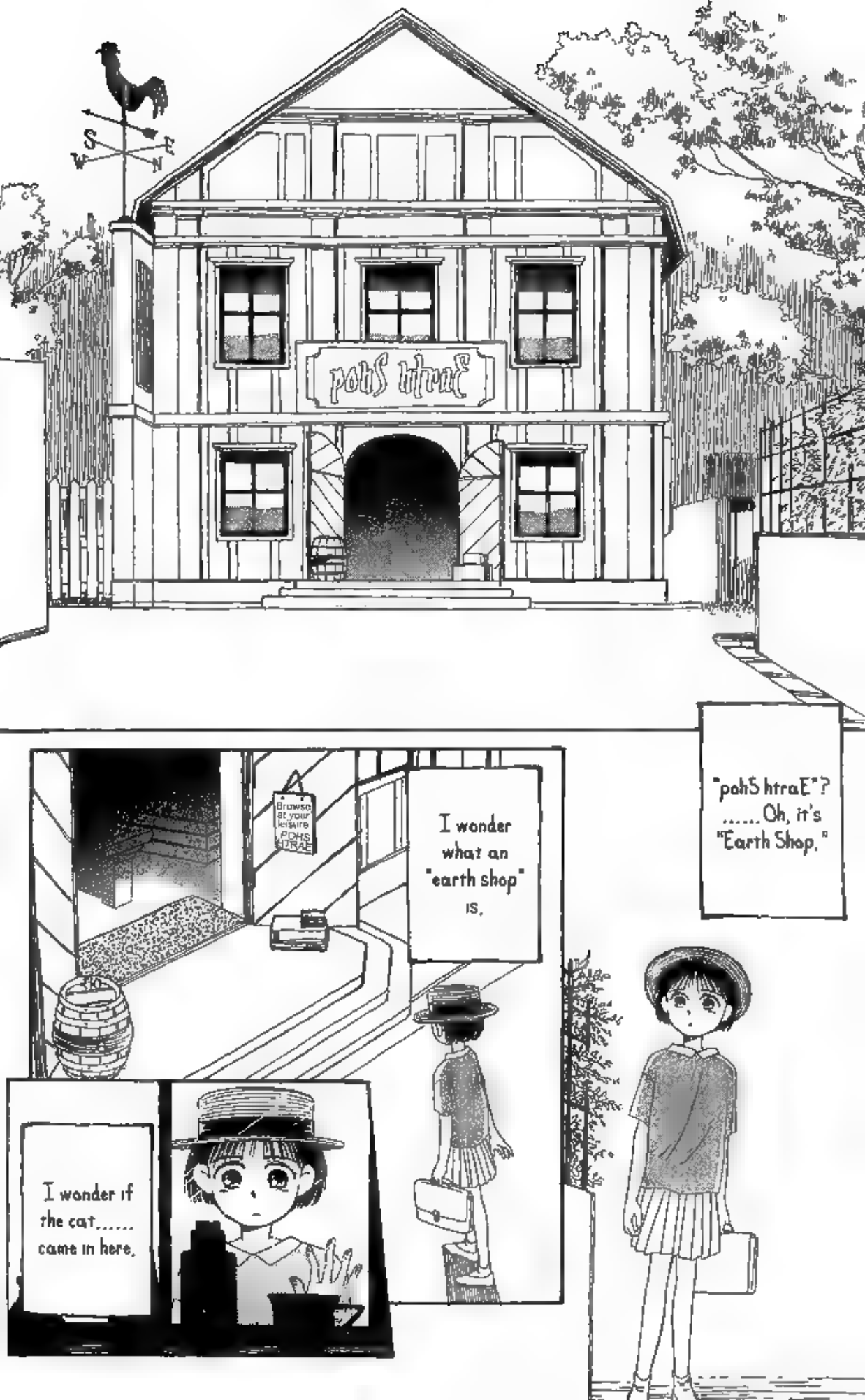
He couldn't possibly be.
SIR CAT, ARE YOU RIDING BY YOURSELF?
What is this cat doing!!?
Not cute at all
HRRM.
-:IGNORE:-
KA-THUNK...
KA-THUNK...
KA-THUNK...
WHAT'S THE MATTER, CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE?
ARE YOU GOING HOME?
HOW FAR ARE YOU GOING?
SOMETHING INTERESTING OUTSIDE?

Shojo Magic


PSSSHT...ooo
Wind Town, Wind Town
WIND TOWN
Cherry Valley
North Front Field
TAP TAP TA-
DASH!
Huh?
SLIDE
I kind of have a feeling about this.
TAP TAP TAP
TAP TAP
ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO, THEN!

We're really close to where I live, but I've never gotten off at this station before.
HEY, SIR CAT!
HUH?
I found you!
Aha!
TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP
PEER
PAD PAD
SNEAK
TA TA TA TA
TAP TAP
TAP

Riding the train all by himself...
Is this your street?
Or is it your first time here?
I wonder where he's headed.
Bzzzzz
Beezzz
Beezz
Rumble
Rumble
Rumble


S
E
W
N
pohS htraE
"pohS htraE"?
.....Oh, it's
"Earth Shop."
Browse at your leisure
POHS HTRAE
I wonder what an "earth shop" is.
I wonder if the cat..... came in here.

Wow!
A Feather Pen
Browse at your leisure.
PHOS HITRAE
What a wonderful place!

It's almost as if that cat brought me here by magic!
I can't believe there's a place like this around here!!
Oh, that's right, Sir Cat!
Where'd he go?

Sir Cat!?
It can't be!
But...
There's no way it's possible!
B-BMP B-BMP
B-BMP

Ah, what is this?
This pressure
inside my chest.
What could it mean?
This mixture
of feelings.
I feel as though I've found the person I wanted to meet.
But that can't be.....
WELCOME!

WELCOME TO THE STORE.
OH
WHOA !?
WHAT IS IT YOU'RE SEARCHING FOR?
UM, THESE HERE I'LL TAKE ONE OF THESE
ER... OH, ACTUALLY, NO I'M NOT SE-SEARCHING — PER SE.

TA TA TA TA TA TA TA TA TA TA
...But that sure was a neat store.
Huff Huff
WHEW——! HE SCARED ME HALF TO DEATH!
My heart is still pounding.
RUSTLE
It was like walking into another world!!
Heh heh

Ahhhhh.
All my feelings are dissolving into the atmosphere.
What a great day this turned out to be!
ARE YOU THE GIRL WHO MADE A PURCHASE AT THE EARTH SHOP?
Meow
meow
Y-YES.
CLIP CLOP
Heeey!
clip clop
It's the cat!!
GREAT! I WAS AFRAID I WOULDN'T CATCH UP WITH YOU.
CLIP CLOP
Hitching a ride on top of his head?
Who is this guy?

YOU FORGOT YOUR CHANGE.
OH! TH- THANKS. SORRY ABOUT THAT.
Smile
Smile
And as if that isn't odd enough, he's wearing geta sandals?
HERE YOU GO.
OH, BY THE WAY,
IF YOU'D LIKE, YOU CAN TAKE THIS.
Swish
Swish
This guy's really. .
ECCENTRIC.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
IT'S NOTHING REALLY. JUST A PHOTOGRAPH I TOOK.
IT'S A WONDERFUL PICTURE.
SLIP
OH! THE CAT IN THE SHOP!
Paris Street
IT'S ONLY A POSTCARD, BUT HERE YOU GO.

ACK!
Jim and the Puppet Theater
RUSTLE
WOW, THESE ARE THE KINDS OF STORIES YOU LIKE.
AH- SORRY ABOUT THAT.
HEY, YOU'RE READING THE RABBIT SERIES. BOY, THESE BOOKS TAKE ME BACK... .. HERE YOU ARE.
YOU LIKE THE RABBIT BOOKS?
O- OKAY.
JUST KIDDING.
Meyow?
ACTU- ALLY, THIS ONE'S THE REAL RABBIT FAN.

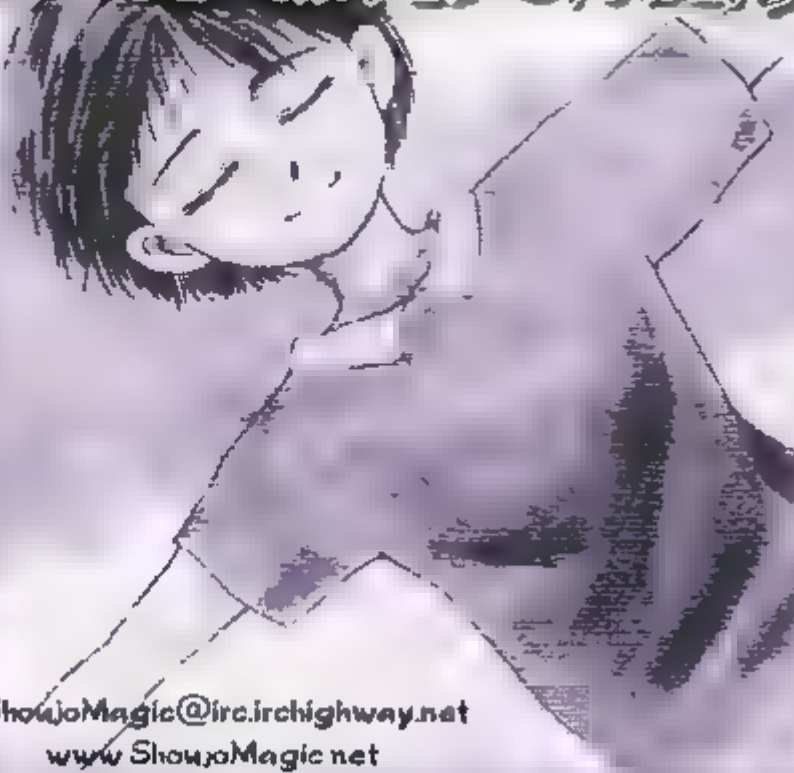
Oh!
meow
voooooooom...
An airship!!
OOH!
LUNA!
This day's turning out to be the absolute best!
Amazing. It's so close!

AND MY NAME'S AMASAWA.
MEW
YES, BUT SHE'S A GIRL.
HIS NAME IS LUNA?
HUH !?

Do you
believe in
Magic
in a
Young Girl's
Heart...

Shoujo Magic

If You Listen Closely



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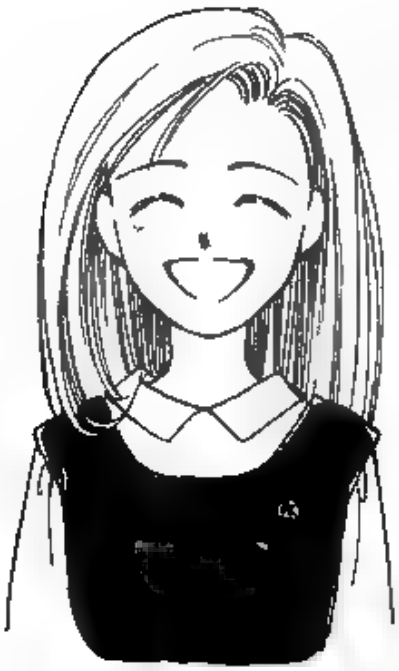
杉村

My name's Amasawa.
Fairytales
Name
Due
Local Library Card
A Battle of Fire
Name
Due Date
Amasawa
Amasawa
Amasawa

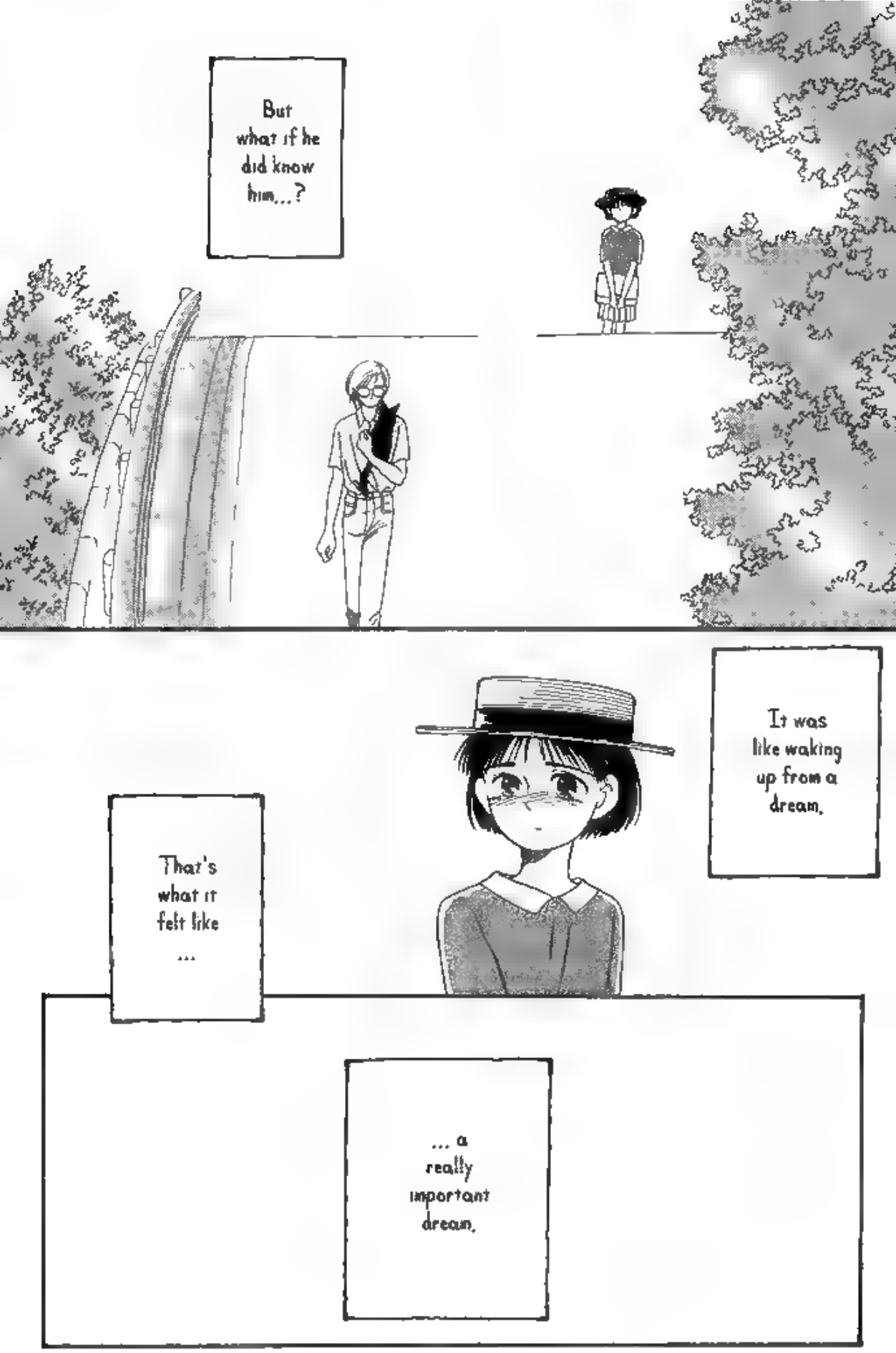
HAVE A NICE DAY
Kouji Amasawa!
Could he be the same Ama-sawa?



WHAT?
RUB
RUB
HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?
I KNEW IT...
WELL... UM... AH...
MEOW
YOOOOOOOOM...

NO, WAIT, ERRR... WHAT AM I SAYING!? I THINK WHAT I MEAN IS...
MY HEALTH TEACHER, KOUSAKA-SENSEI, SHE... UM... HOW TO PUT THIS... SHE SAID HE WAS KIND OF AN ODDBALL ....
AND ALONG WITH THAT ...
THE MUKAIBARA MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY! WHEN I CHECKED OUT A BOOK CALLED "FAIRYTALES." AMASAWA WAS ONE OF THE PEOPLE WHO HAD CHECKED IT OUT BEFORE.
WELL, IN OTHER WORDS ... UM...
BECAUSE ...
AM I MAKING ANY SENSE?
I THINK I GOT THE GENERAL IDEA.
BUT I DIDN'T THINK KOUSAKA-SENSEI WOULD CALL ME AN... ODDBALL.
She pretty much hit the nail on the head, though
NO MATTER.
OH, I DIDN'T MEAN THAT ...
I'D BETTER GET GOING. COME AGAIN TO THE STORE ANY TIME. DID YOU LIKE IT?
VERY MUCH SO!

Oh, excuse me!
LATER, OKAY?
meow
Do you know a person named Seiji Amasawa?
UM ...
THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING.
OH, IT'S NOTHING.
WHAT?
I MEAN ...


But what if he did know him...?
It was like waking up from a dream.
That's what it felt like ...
... a really important dream.

Aah!
THE BLIMP, IT'S VANISHED!
I went back to the Earth Shop,
Twice after that,
S
E
W
N
But Sir Cat was still there.
But I didn't see Kouji or Luna.

.. that made something stir in my heart.
Every time I saw him, I felt something new.
SO, WHO IS THIS SEIJI AMASAWA?
I SHOULD HAVE ASKED KOUJI WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE.
Every time I saw him, he greeted me with a different look, a different expression ...
No guarantee that he knew him either though I mean I wanted to ask him but at the same time I didn't want to know the answer
I MEAN, I WANTED TO ASK HIM, BUT AT THE SAME TIME I DIDN'T WANT TO KNOW THE ANSWER
Being fickle about such things can be fun, but it can be a real pain in the neck, too.

HA HA HA
HA HA HA
flew by, along with all that homework that had been piling up.
Long time no see!
G'morning!
Hi, Shizuku!
Me
Good morning!
After that, the rest of summer vacation

HERE'S TODAY'S PROBLEM.

THERE'S A MISTAKE IN WHAT I'M GOING TO SAY NEXT, SO PAY ATTENTION AND TELL ME WHAT IT IS.
September 16th Saturday
monitors: Nagai, Ishii

Tsukishima!
A BALL THAT BOUNCES ONE METER ON THE EARTH WILL, IF THROWN WITH THE SAME FORCE, REBOUND SIX METERS ON THE SURFACE OF THE MOON.
DAZE

UM... YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO USE GETSUMEN (MOON + SURFACE) TO REFER TO THE SURFACE OF THE MOON, NOT JIMEN (EARTH + SURFACE).
TIMIDLY
TIMIDLY
WHERE'S THE MISTAKE IN WHAT I JUST SAID?
Y-
yes!
RISE
CORRECT. PERHAPS THAT ONE WAS A BIT TOO EASY.
There was a trick question!
How was that too easy?
What?
NO.
THAT GUY HASN'T SAID ANYTHING ELSE TO YOU?
YUUKO, HAVE YOU FIGURED OUT A REPLY TO THAT LOVE LETTER?
NO, NOT YET
Splash
gyahaha and then..
hahaha what the heck is that?

YOU WOULD?
YEAH, MAYBE THAT WOULD BE BEST.
PAIRS!
PAIRS!
BUT I'D..
PROBABLY TURN HIM DOWN, ANYWAY.
CLUNK
WHAT ABOUT SUGIMURA? HAVE YOU SPOKEN TO HIM?
HEH, HEH, WHY NOT JUST ASK HIM AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS?
N-no way! How could I ...!?
SEEING AS YOU'RE ALWAYS A BIT MOON-STRUCK YOURSELF.
NEXT TIME, IT WON'T BE AN EASY PROBLEM LIKE TODAY'S THOUGH IT STANDS TO REASON YOU'D HAVE A KNACK FOR QUESTIONS LIKE THAT-
YES, SENSEI.
THERE YOU ARE, MISS TSUK-ISHIMA!
SURPRISED

HEY, IT'S SUG-IMURA.
SLOW DOWN A SECOND!
YEAH, YAMAZAKI-SEMPAI. THEY'RE BOTH ON THE BASEBALL TEAM.
YOU MEAN, THE GUY SUG-IMURA WAS JUST TALKING TO WAS THE ONE WHO HANDED YOU THE LOVE LETTER?
WHAT!?
BUT WHAT WERE THEY TALKING ABOUT?

I bet she's the one he's going to see, too!
1-4
I don't believe it! It's that jerk again!
OK
slide

Tacos
To go, so
What's with that attitude!?
He didn't even look at me!
could there be a more annoying person alive!?
1-3
1—3
IT'S THAT GUY I WAS TALKING ABOUT BEFORE!
OH REALLY? WHICH ONE WAS IT?
The shorter one.
SHIZUKU, WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
Oh, so we're in the same grade!
GRRRR.
SKETCH
WHAT'S WITH THAT SCARY FACE?

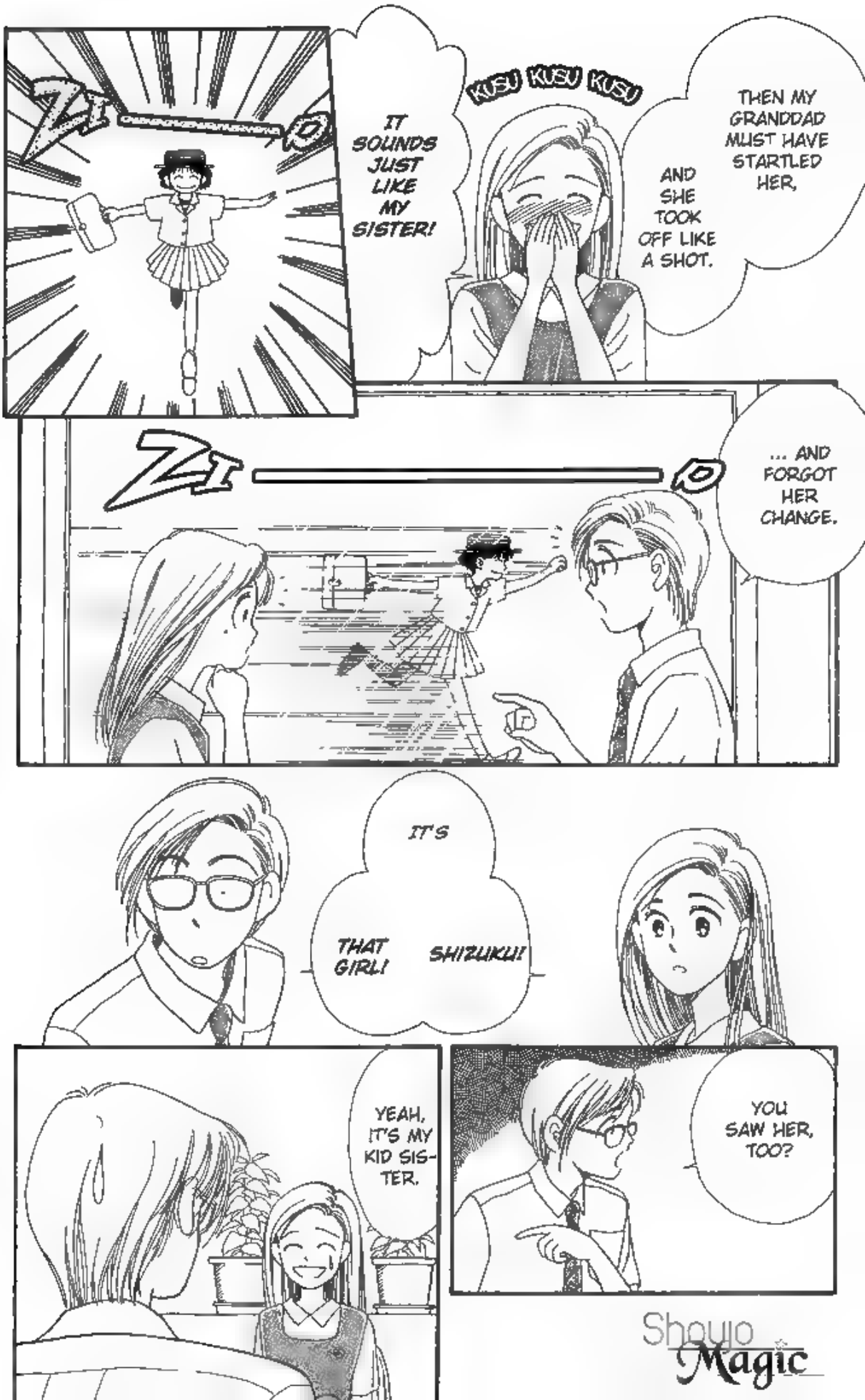
I GOT IT!
AND NOW WHAT ARE YOU ALL CHEERED UP ABOUT?
I'M GOING TO GET THE GARDENS OF BABYLON BEFORE SEIJI AMASAWA DOES!
Yeah, I'm through with being the one who checks out all the good books after he does!
SHIZUKU, ABOUT THIS BUSINESS WITH SUGIMURA...
HEY, I'LL GIVE YOU A CALL LATER, OKAY?
Leh di deh
That's right, if I check out the books first, he's bound to notice my name.
O-OKAY
SHEESH. SHIZUKU CAN SURE BE AN IDIOT SOMETIMES.

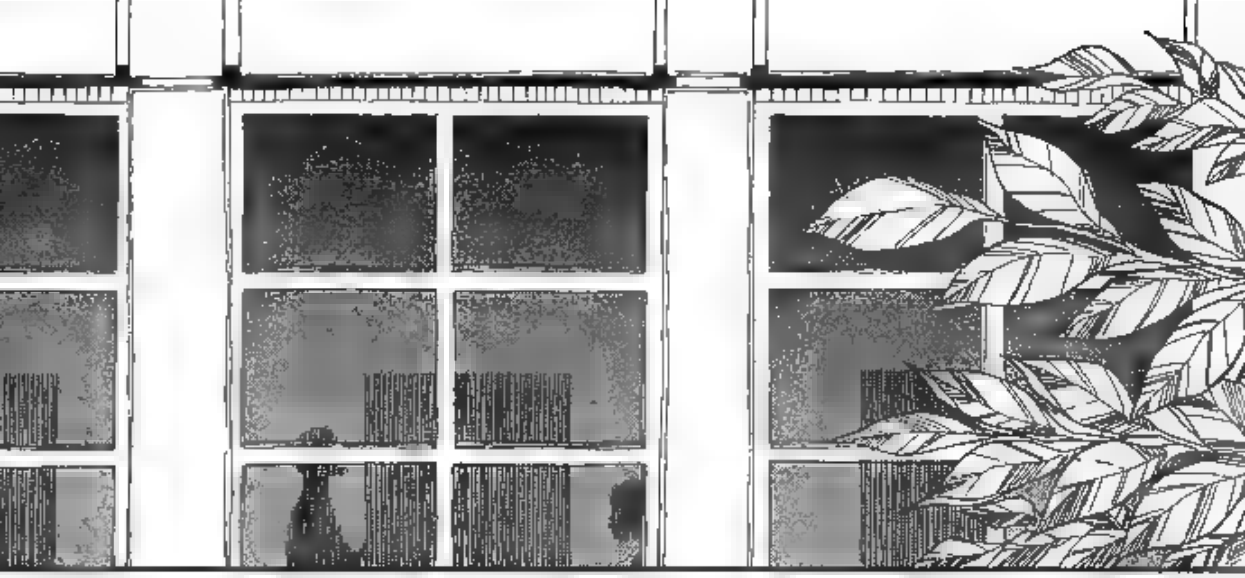
Sorry, Sugimura, I'm in a real hurry!
D-DO YOU...
BYE, SHIZUKU.
BYE, BYE, KINU-CHAN.
HEY, TSUK-ISHIMA.
TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP
TSUK-ISHIMA?
SEE YOU MONDAY.
BYE, BYE.
1-5
BYE, YUUKO.
YEAH, LATER.
BOY, THAT WAS GUTLESS OF ME.

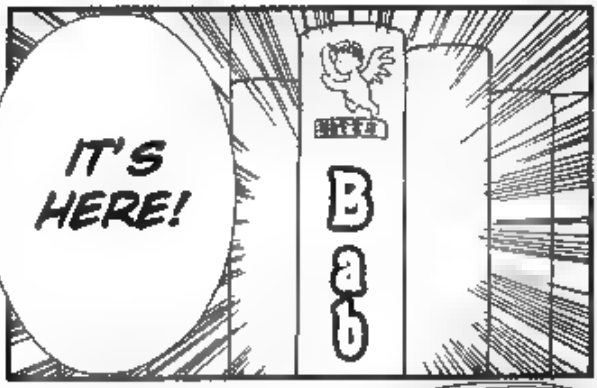
HARADA.
S-SUGIMURA...
Oh, gross! You're kidding!
Hee hee ha ha ha...
I... I GUESS.
UM, DO YOU HAVE A MINUTE?

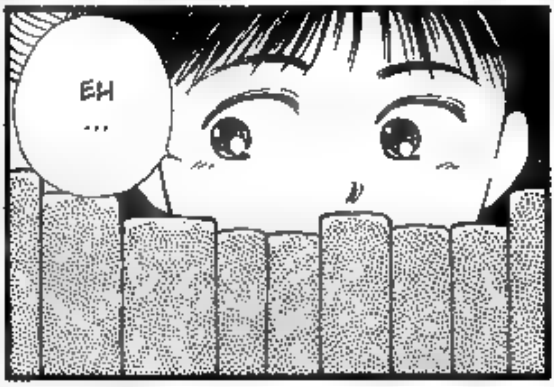
SUN
SUN
WHAT? ON A DAY LIKE TODAY?
KEKE KE
WELL, ANOTHER THIRTY SECONDS AND I WOULD HAVE FIGURED OUT WHO THE MURDERER WAS.
SORRY I WAS LATE.
Per
BEEN WAITING LONG?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT UMBRELLA?
People do say he's a bit odd.
OH, BUT IT'S GOING TO RAIN TODAY.
SUN
SUN
SUN

Kitchen
Room
Cock-Cook
SO WHAT'S YOUR GOOD NEWS?
HIKOSEN
VROOOOOMM...
A DAY LIKE TODAY AND HE'S HAVING HOT TEA ...?
THAT'S CRUEL!
I'LL KEEP IT A SECRET JUST A LITTLE LONGER. I'LL GIVE YOU A HINT. A BLIMP
YOU MEAN, THE EARTH SHOP. YOUR GRANDFATHER'S STORE, RIGHT?
AN UNUSUAL GIRL CAME TO THE SHOP THE OTHER DAY.
OH, YEAH, SPEAKING OF BLIMPS ...
SHE WAS WEARING A STRAW HAT.
SHE HAD A ROUND FACE, SHORT HAIR, KIND OF CUTE.
WITH A DIFFERENT EXPRESSION EVERY SECOND,
AND BIG CURIOUS EYES.

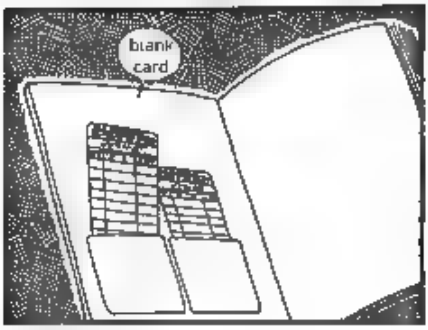

ZI
KUSU KUSU KUSU
IT SOUNDS JUST LIKE MY SISTER!
THEN MY GRANDDAD MUST HAVE STARTLED HER,
AND SHE TOOK OFF LIKE A SHOT.
ZI
... AND FORGOT HER CHANGE.
IT'S
THAT GIRL!
SHIZUKU!
YEAH, IT'S MY KID SIS-TER.
YOU SAW HER, TOO?
Shojo Magic

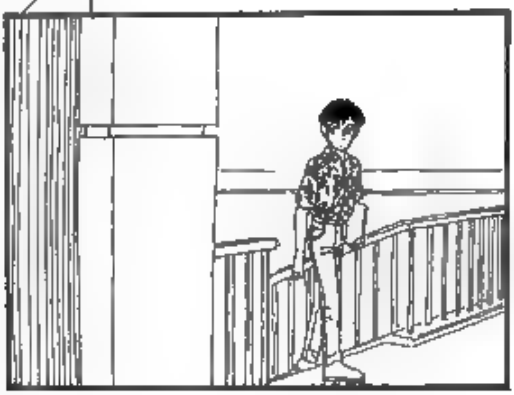



IT'S HERE!
Bab

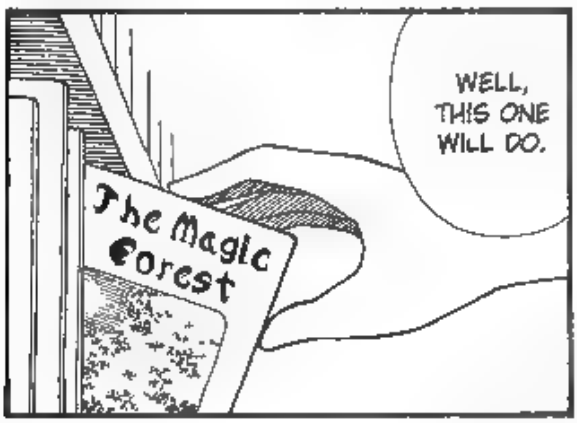

EH ...

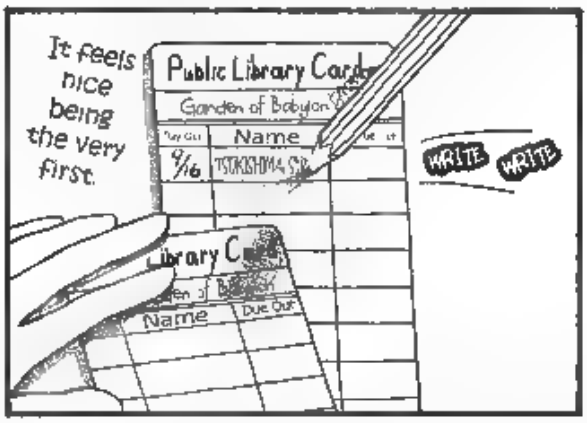
HEH, HEH, HEH. I WIN, SEIJI AMASAWA!
flip flip
Babylon

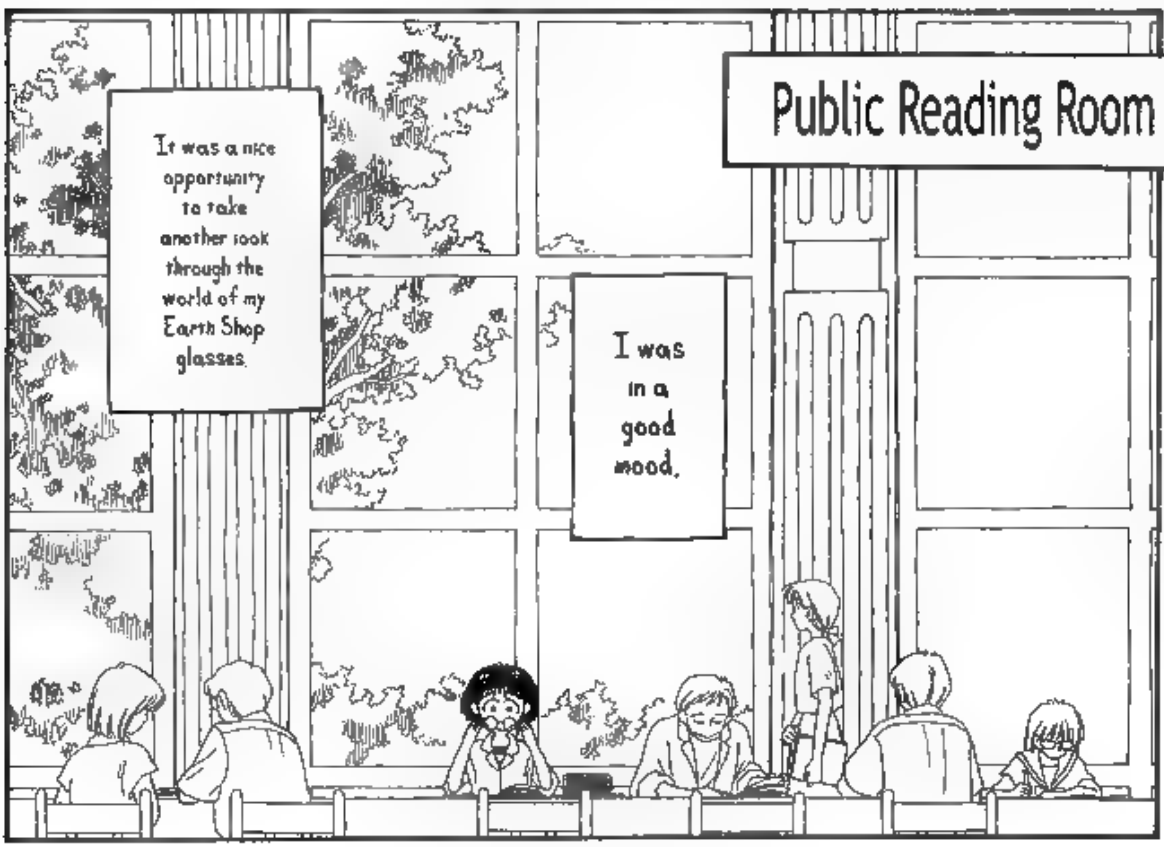

blank card



HISTORY
NEW RELEASES
BIOGRAPHY
RECOMMENDED
EXCUSE ME
HEY, IT'S NOT IN.
I THOUGHT THEY'D HAVE IT THIS WEEK.


WELL, THIS ONE WILL DO.
The Magic Forest


It feels nice being the very first.
Public Library Card
Name
WRITE
WRITE


Public Reading Room
It was a nice opportunity to take another look through the world of my Earth Shop glasses.
I was in a good mood.

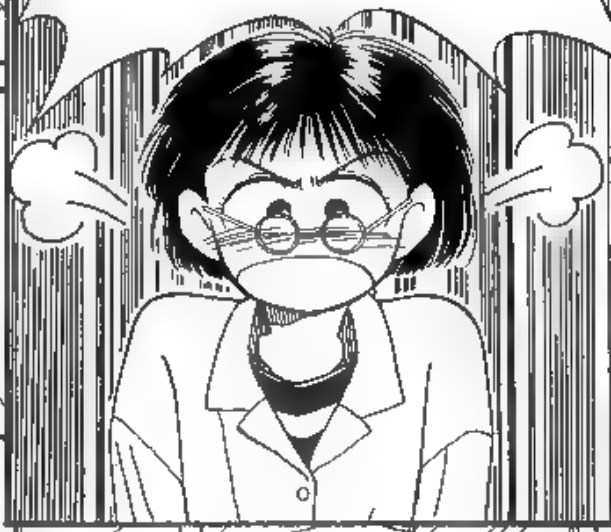
?
CLUNK

CLINK
The Magic Forest
CLUNK
Ah, that's the book I was going to read next.
The Magic Forest
01
You!

TOO LATE, ALREADY SAW IT.
SAW W-WHAT?
HIDE
HMM, SO FAIRIES ARE FOR LOSERS, BUT MAGIC IS COOL, HUH?
The Garden of Babylon
GRRRR.
WIZARDS ARE MUCH MORE SCIENTIFIC. IT'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THIS FAIRY BUSINESS.
EXACTLY!

THE FACT IS, I BET YOU'VE GOT A THING FOR FAIRIES!
SHEEZ, ENOUGH ALREADY.
BY THAT REASONING THERE AREN'T ANY WIZARDS, EITHER.
NO, THERE AREN'T.
BUT, YOU HAVE TO ADMIT, THE SAME WAY THERE ARE ALL KINDS OF DIFFERENT ANIMALS IN THE WORLD, THERE HAVE GOT BE CREATURES LIKE FAIRIES, TOO!
Sh——h
-don't be stupid! I do not!
D-
Erk...
KACHIN
AND WHAT ARE YOU WEARING THOSE GRANNY GLASSES FOR, ANYWAY?
. . .

Keep your OPINIONS to YOURSELF!



WAS IT JUST MY IMAGINATION, OR WAS THAT MY DAUGHTER YELLING AT SOMEBODY?

splash
splash
splash
IN YOUR CASE, IT SCARES ME THAT YOU WERE RIGHT.
HERE YOU GO, TSUKI-SAN.
FWIP

ZA AAAAAA--A
SEE YOU!
IT'S POURING CATS AND DOGS.
YOU BROUGHT IT WITH YOU? YOU MUST BE QUITE THE WEATHER FORE-CASTER.
HOW IS HAVING MY OWN UMBRELLA CHEATING?
YOU'RE GOING TO SHARE IT WITH ME, RIGHT?
RISTLE
RISTLE
Hey! That's cheating! You have an umbrella!
NO WAY!
share it, share it, share it, share it!
IS THIS THE WAY YOU NOR-MALLY ASK PEOPLE FOR FAVORS?
OH, I AM SO SORRY. PLEASE SHARE YOUR UM-BRELLA WITH ME.

*Sound of Grinding Teeth

SUGINOMIYA STATION
HERE WE ARE.
YOU COULD AT LEAST SAY THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THAT DIDN'T SOUND VERY SINCERE.
TOO BAD
YOU WON'T MIND GETTING ALL WET THEN.
UM ...
GIVE ME BACK MY UMBRELLA!

And STILL a jerk!!
To think I was ready to believe he was a decent person!
THINK TWICE ABOUT WEARING THOSE GRANNY GLASSES AGAIN.
ONE MORE THING, JUST A TIP... IF YOU CARED AT ALL ABOUT WHAT PEOPLE THOUGHT OF ME,
HA HA HA HA

Shoujo Magic

RATTLE... RATTLE...
Come to think of it, I didn't even get that guy's name.
Luna isn't taking the train today. I wonder what she's up to about now?
Seiji Amasawa
SHAKE SHAKE
IT CAN'T BE!
PLUS
They both like fantasy novels!
PLUS
They go to the same library
PLUS
They go to the same junior high
And to make matters worse,
After all, they do kind of look alike ...
Although, if he were Kouji's younger brother ...

EQUALS

SEIJI AMASAWA

THAT'S RIGHT! I AM SEIJI AMASAWA!

Ha ha ha ha

WHAT A DISASTER! THIS IS TURNING OUT WORSE THAN I HAD EVER EXPECTED! ALTHOUGH, YOU WOULD THINK YOU COULD FIND PEOPLE NAMED AMASAWA ALL OVER THE PLACE...

EXCEPT THAT NOBODY ELSE I KNEW WAS NAMED AMASAWA.

づーむ

RATTLE...

IT'S LIKE CRAWLING INTO A CAVE, LOOKING FOR HIDDEN TREASURE, AND ENDING UP BEING BURIED ALIVE.

RATTLE... RATTLE...

I'VE GOT TO STOP THINKING ABOUT THIS.

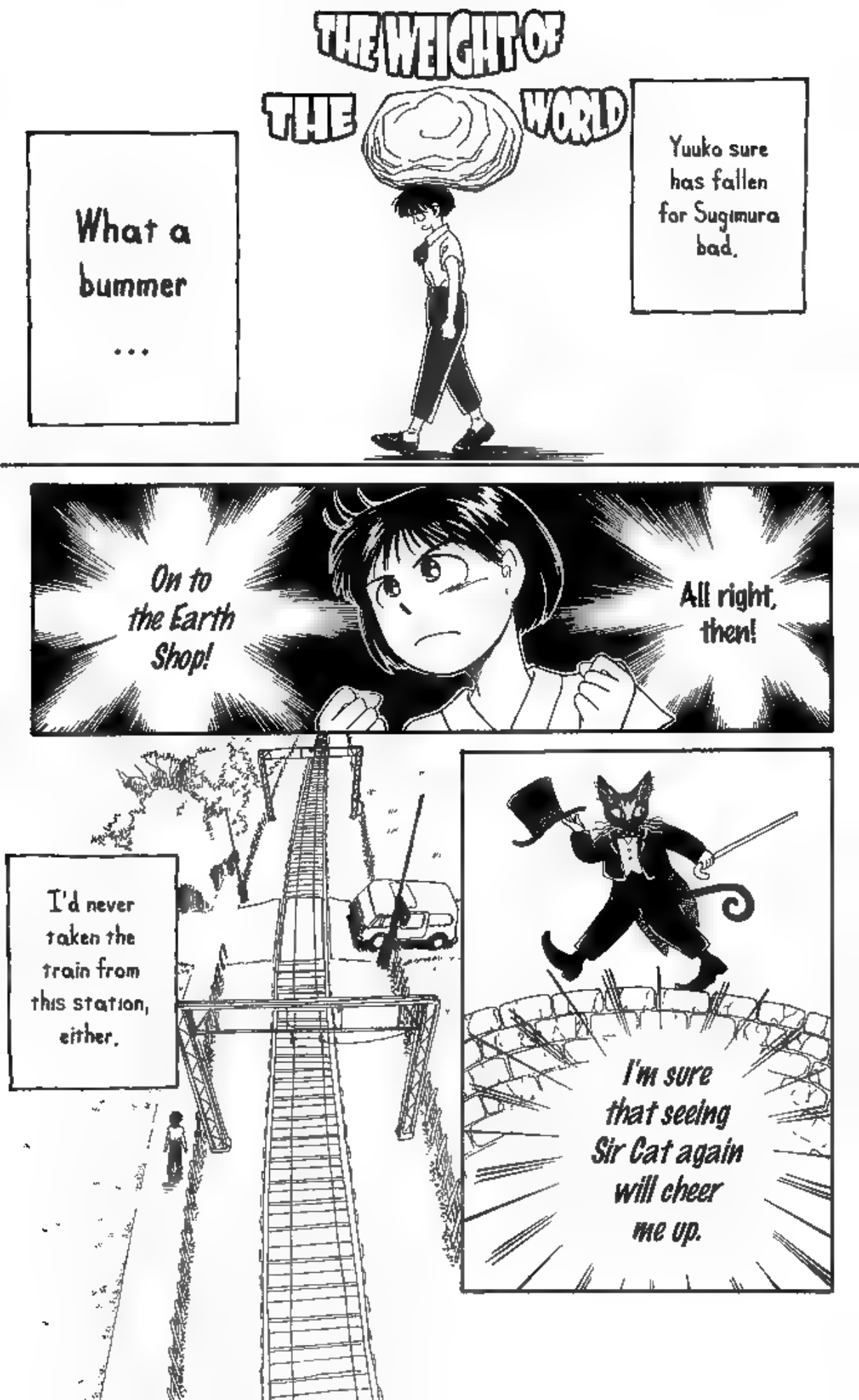
I decided that the next day I would treat myself and go back to the Earth Shop.

Yuuko!
What's going on? You look awful!
WELL, I'M ASKING NOW, AREN'T I?
IT'S ALL BECAUSE IT'S ALL BECAUSE YOU TOOK OFF YESTERDAY BEFORE I COULD TALK TO YOU!
YEAH
OH NO.
WAAAH
SUGIMURA-HE WANTED TO ASK ME WHY I HADN'T ANSWERED YAMAZAKI-SEMPAI'S LETTER YET
SO I TOLD SUG-IMURA ...

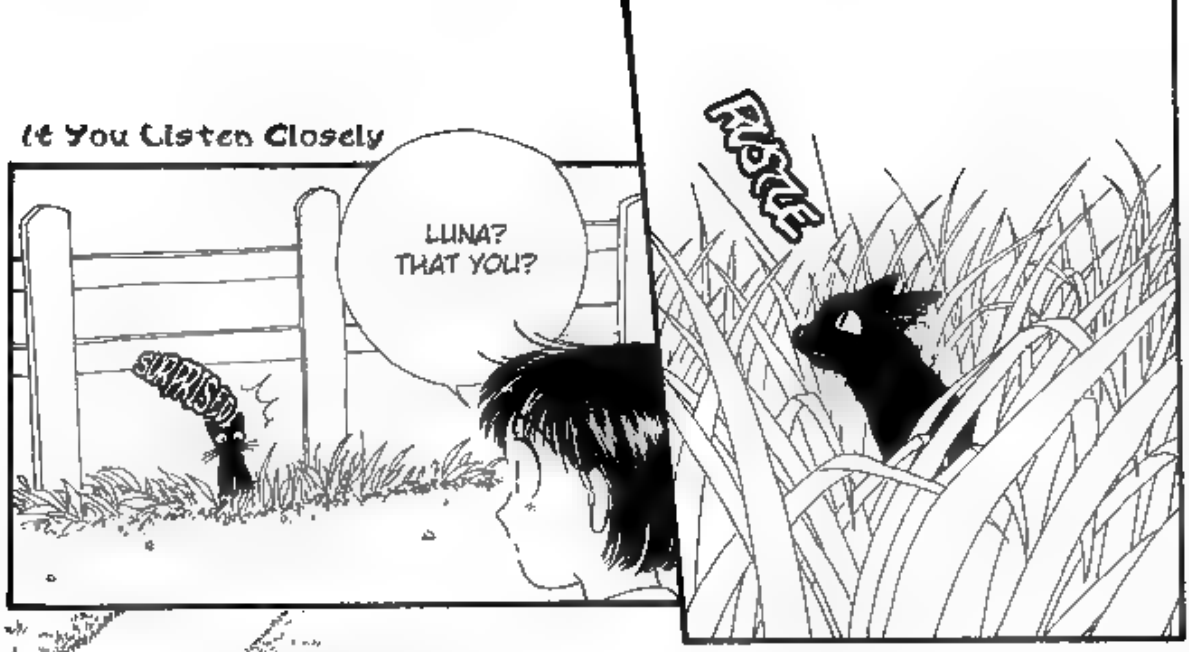
Hey!
Why are YOU asking me something like THAT for?

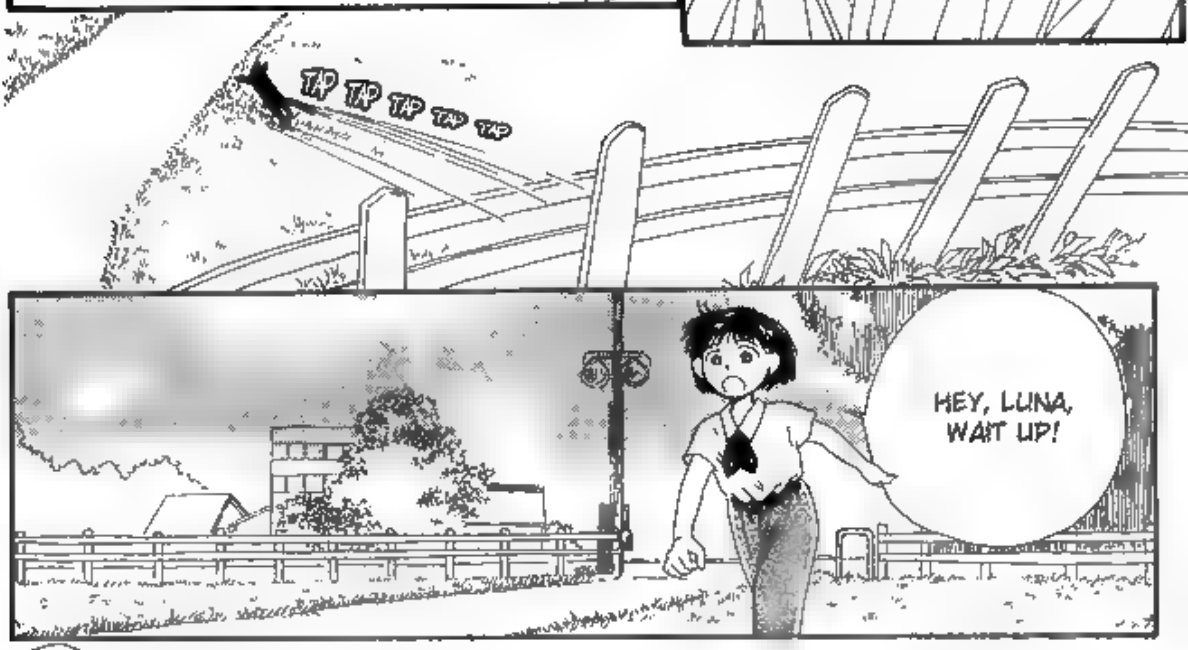
WHAT A MESS. BUT SUGIMURA DOESN'T KNOW HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT HIM.
SOB
SHIZUKU.

I'M NOT COMING TO SCHOOL TOMORROW, SHIZUKU. THERE'S NO WAY I CAN SHOW UP LIKE THIS.
I KNOW, BUT...
I KNOW ...
I SHOULD APOLOGIZE TO HIM, ANYWAY.

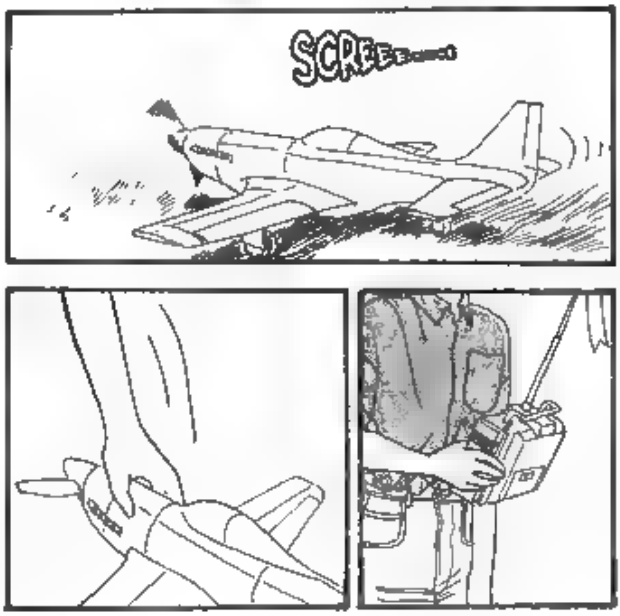

THE WEIGHT OF THE WORLD
What a bummer ...
Yuuko sure has fallen for Sugimura bad.
On to the Earth Shop!
All right, then!
I'd never taken the train from this station, either.
I'm sure that seeing Sir Cat again will cheer me up.

HEY, A RADIO-CONTROLLED AIRPLANE
THAT'S NEAT
SHINE
THEY MUST BE FLYING IT FROM OVER THERE


LUNA? THAT YOU?
SURPRISED!
RUSTLE


TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP
HEY, LUNA, WAIT UP!

LUNA?


SCREEEE

WHAT'S UP, MOON?
MEOW
SHIZUKU TSUK-ISHIMA?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE,
KAAH KAAH
WHEN I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOURS!
HEY, DON'T GO USING MY FULL NAME

Wait, don't tell me, DON'T TELL ME!
OH, I GUESS I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU.
I... I'VE ERRR
GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS!
HEY, SEIJI!
Amasawa Hosp al
Arrgh!
MEW
Shoujo Magic

AND THAT IS MOON.
SO THIS IS LUNA.
AND THAT IS SEIJI AMASAWA.
AND THIS IS KOUJI AMASAWA.
CRUMBLE CRUMBLE CRUMBLE
And the sound I'm hearing right now is all my hopes and dreams crumbling to dust!

AHHHH.
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
Seiji Amasawa.
HERE, MOON.
Tsuppy
HELLO ...
THAT'S RIGHT! SHIZUKU-CHAN, YOU AND SEIJI ARE IN THE SAME GRADE.
DAZED
BUT WHEN THERE ARE STRANGERS AROUND, SEIJI'S THE ONLY ONE HE'S FRIENDLY WITH.
MOON'S A BOY.
HELLO... SHIZUKU-CHAN?
DAZED

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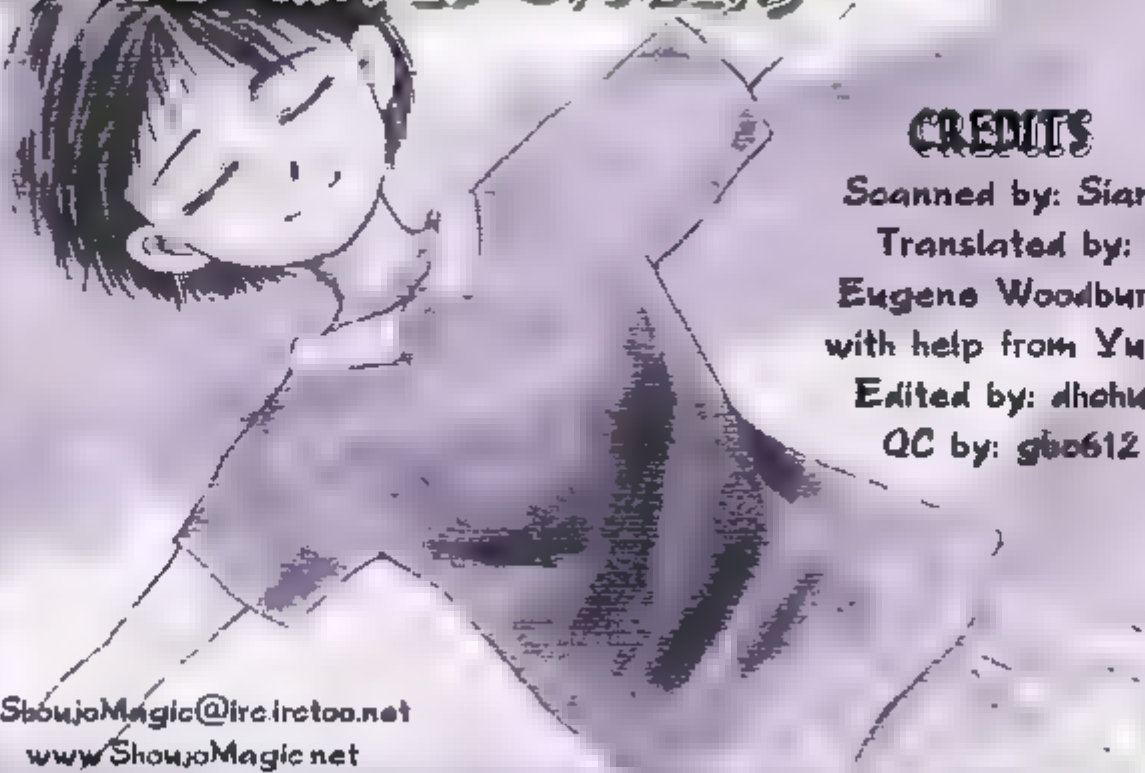
THANK YOU!! ♡

Siana and the entire ShoujoMagic Staff

Do you
believe in
Magic
in a
Young Girl's
Heart...

Shoujo Magic

If You Listen Closely



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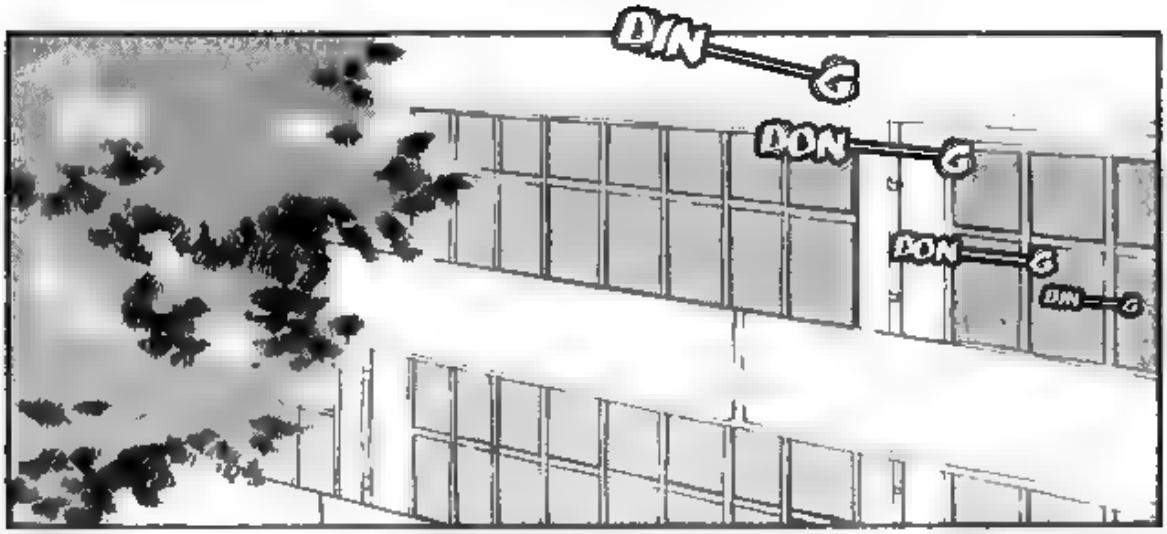
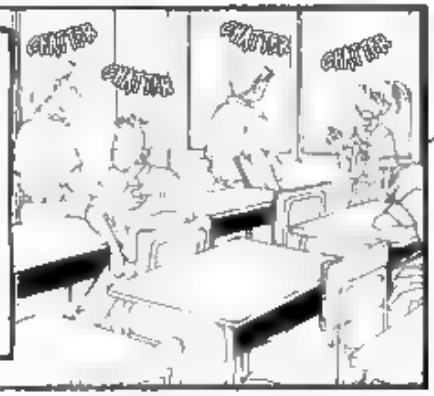
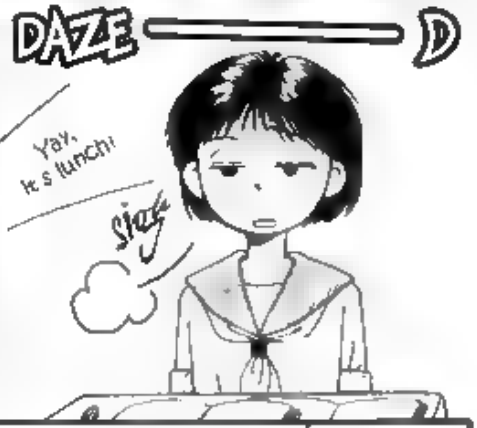
BON
I'M SORRY. PLEASE EXCUSE ME.
I MEAN ...
AH
UM ...
wobble
wobble
HEY!
TSUKISHIMA? WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?
HUH?
...
meow
meow



It had really turned out to be a wreck of a day, what with Yuuko being absent and all.





I GUESS I'M KIND OF TIRED OF LIFE TODAY.

OH, HI, KINU-CHAN.

WHAT'S UP, SHIZUKU? YOU'RE REALLY LOOKING DOWN.

HEY, TSUKISHIMA, YOU IN HERE? THERE'S SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO TALK TO YOU!

A GUY!

WHY DON'T WE GO DOWN TO KOUSAKA-SENSEI'S OFFICE?

AT LEAST IT'S FINALLY LUNCHTIME.

SI—LENCE
HUH?
GOOD GRIEF!
H-HELLO?
SHIZUKU!
SINCE WHEN DID YOU ...?
ISN'T THAT AMASAWA FROM CLASS 3?
Look everybody, Shizuku's got a BOY hehe Friend!
J-JUST A MINUTE ...!

This ISN'T happening!
CHEER
CHEER
DAAAAAARRRT
Go for it, Shizuku!
fuee
YOU MEAN, AMASAWA?
SAY, NISHINO, DO YOU KNOW THAT GUY?
MUNCH MUNCH
ARE YOU EVEN READING THAT BOOK, SUGIYAMA?
WHO WAS THAT GUY?
MUNCH MUNCH
SHOUNEN COMIC
HA HA HA
WHAT, YOU GOT A THING FOR SHIZUKU?
WH... WHATEVER!
SHOUNEN COMIC

What were you THINKING!?
YEAH, I SUPPOSE ...
YOU CAN QUIT BEING SO SELF-CONSCIOUS ABOUT IT, OKAY?
I can't believe it!
With all those PEOPLE around!
BLUSH
WH... WH... WHA...
YEAH, HOW WEIRD WOULD IT HAVE BEEN FOR ME IF I HAD TO HANG AROUND OUTSIDE YOUR HOMEROOM UNTIL YOU DECIDED TO LEAVE?

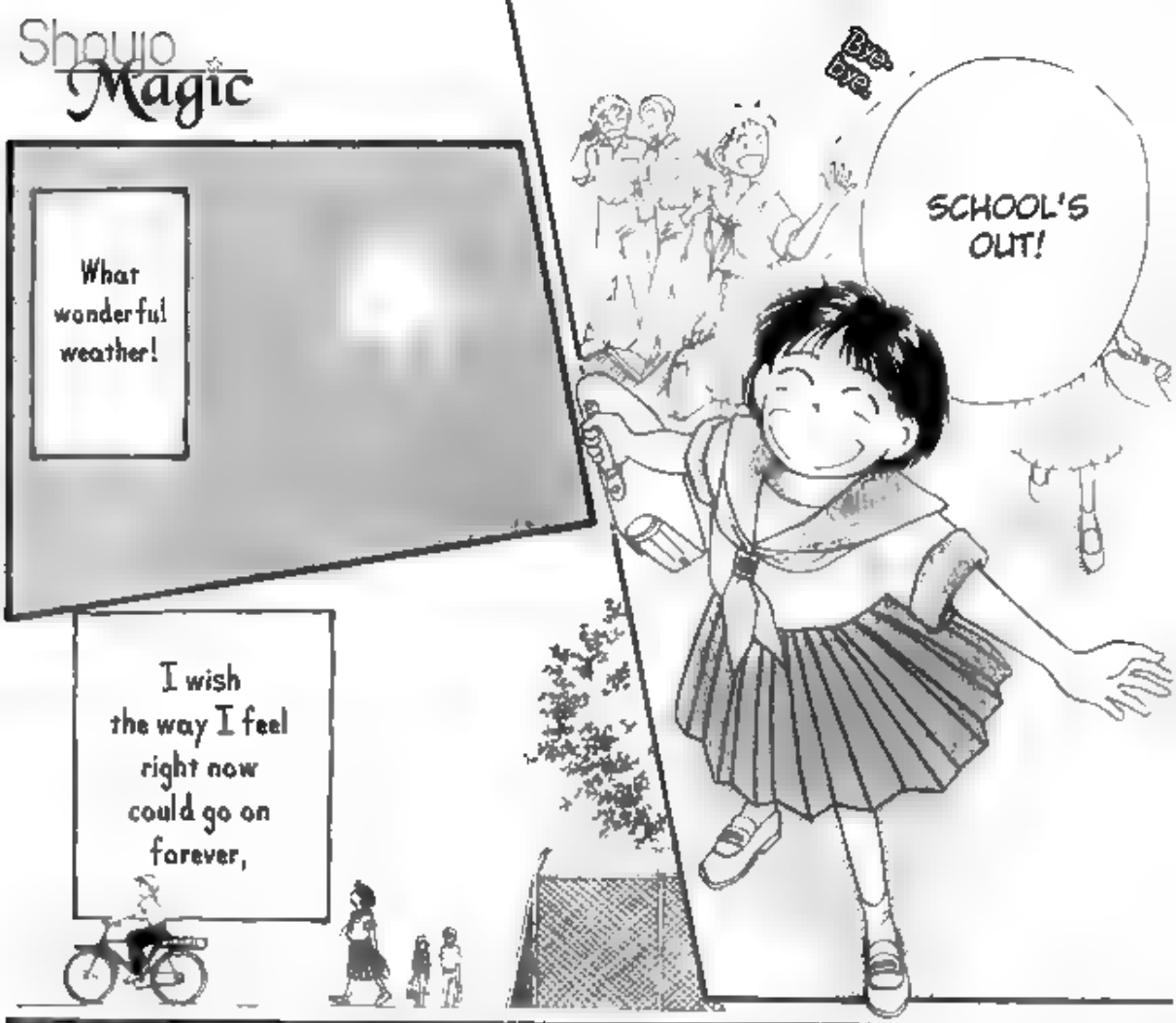
DID YOU KNOW MY BROTHER FROM BEFORE?
I WAS WONDERING,
WHAT DO YOU WANT, ANYWAY?
... PERHAPS.
HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE EARTH SHOP?
YOU'VE BEEN TO THE EARTH SHOP!?
HE HELPED ME OUT AT THE EARTH SHOP.
I DIDN'T KNOW HIM. WE JUST MET.
OR WERE YOU TOO EMBARRASSED ABOUT WHAT YOU THOUGHT HE'D THINK TO ASK?
YOU KNOW, YOU'RE NOT VERY CUTE WHEN YOU SAY THINGS LIKE THAT.
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT THE EARTH SHOP? YOU WOULD HAVE FOUND ALL THIS OUT IF YOU'D JUST ASKED YOUR BROTHER.

I JUST WANTED TO KNOW
WHAT WAS GOING ON WITH YOU YESTER-DAY.
SAME TO YOU!
BLAM
YOU WERE ...
ACTING KIND OF FUNNY.
MUMBLE MUMBLE
OH ...
THAT... SORRY ABOUT YESTER-DAY.
AND THANKS FOR WORRY-ING ABOUT ME...
BUT I WAS WONDERING, TALKING WITH YOUR BROTHER, DID HE MENTION ME OR OUR MEETING AT THE EARTH SHOP?

?
YOU DIDN'T TELL HIM?
BUT YESTERDAY, KOUJI KNEW MY NAME!
?
Be quiet
Aah
Don't push!
?
I HAVEN'T TALKED AT ALL TO MY BROTHER ABOUT YOU.
Kinu-chan! I don't believe this!
HEY, UM...
AND OFF SHE GOES AGAIN.
HE HE HE
HEY, YOU DUMMIES, SHE SAW US!
IT'S NOT MY FAULT!

So... he was worried about me, I see...
Maybe he's a pretty nice guy ...
Run away!
She's coming!
Sorry, sorry, but the curiosity was killing me!
What is GOING on?!

But, there's no way I can tell him, "It was too much of a shock for me when I found out your name."


What wonderful weather!
Bye-bye
SCHOOL'S OUT!
I wish the way I feel right now could go on forever,

We didn't exactly start off on the right foot...
That's for sure!
I wonder what kind of person I was hoping for...
THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS FAIRIES ...
like a perfect autumn sky... Well, so it turns out that Seiji Amasawa isn't such a bad guy after all.

SO WHY DO I ALWAYS ACT LIKE SUCH A KLUTZ AROUND HIM?
Yeah, he's pretty cool!...
But a bit strange.
Somebody like Kouji?

I don't quite feel the same way.
When I think "Seiji Amasawa," though,
SUGIMURA.
SHIZUKU!
HEY!
SO,
ALL I WANTED TO DO WAS GET AN ANSWER FOR YAMAZAKI-SEMPAI,
AND SHE BURSTS OUT CRYING!

HEY, SUGIMURA.
DIDN'T YUUKO WANT TO KNOW WHY YOU WERE ASKING HER THAT QUESTION?
I'VE BEEN TRYING TO THINK WHAT I DID WRONG...
WHEN SHE SAID
IT WASN'T A QUESTION SHE WANTED TO HEAR FROM YOU?
AND YOU HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT WHAT SHE MEANT,
YEAH.
Haven't you figured out that Yuuko's got a crush on you!?
Good grief, you sure are slow!
NOT A CLUE.
AN-
OTHER
COC
KY
KNOW-
NOTHING
JO-
CK!
A WHAT!?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

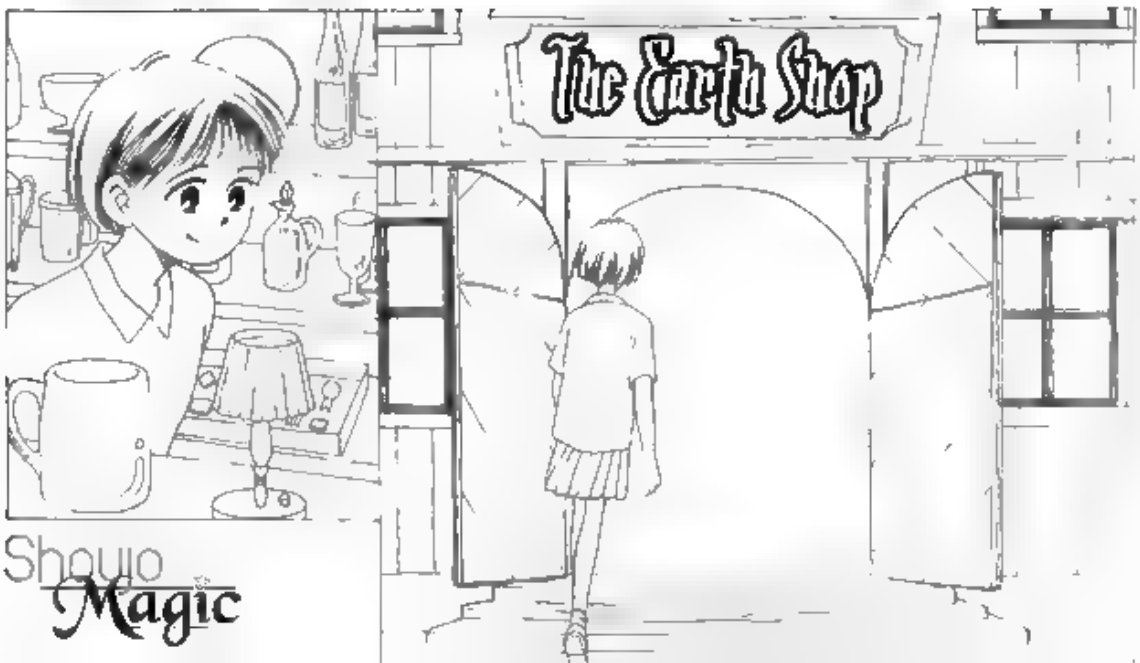
W-WHAT AM I SUP-POSED TO DO ABOUT THAT?
YOU ...
YOU'RE
THE ONE I LIKE!
D-DON'T JOKE AROUND ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT!
I'm not joking!

STOP SAYING THAT!
YOU'RE THE ONE I'M IN LOVE WITH!
I'M NOT GOING STEADY WITH ANYBODY!
IT'S NOT THAT AT ALL!
THAT GUY YOU WERE TALKING TO DURING LUNCH PERIOD?
YOU MEAN YOU'RE ALREADY GOING STEADY WITH SOMEBODY?
SHIZUKU ...
Wait!
No, I'm sorry!

I DO LIKE YOU, SUGIMURA.
BUT .
THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU.
I KNOW I'M NOT PUTTING THIS VERY WELL...
BUT YOU'VE
BEEN A GOOD FRIEND ...
ALWAYS
AND ALWAYS WILL BE, I HOPE.

FOREVER?
OKAY... I GUESS.
SURE, FOR-EVER.
I'm really sorry, Suginura.
left without saying another word.
And then, he..

How did I get myself into this mess?
that I was the one who was slow.
Tsuki-shima
And I realized,
How could I have been so dense?
HEY SHIZUKU!



Shoujo Magic

I CAME TO SEE SIR CAT AGAIN.
HI, KOUJI-SAN.
WELCOME TO THE STORE, SHIZUKU-CHAN!
WHAT!? HE'S NOT HERE!?
WHERE DID HE GO!?
Hey!
Wait up!!
THE CAT?
THAT GIRL THAT JUST LEFT TOOK HIM WITH HER.
adieu.
WAIT, DON'T GO!
OH!

What an awful dream.
Good morning, Shizuku!
CHEERFUL
GAUNT
Oh, g'morning, Yuuko.
You're sure in a good mood.
What about you?
No... it's nothing...
TRUDGE
TRUDGE

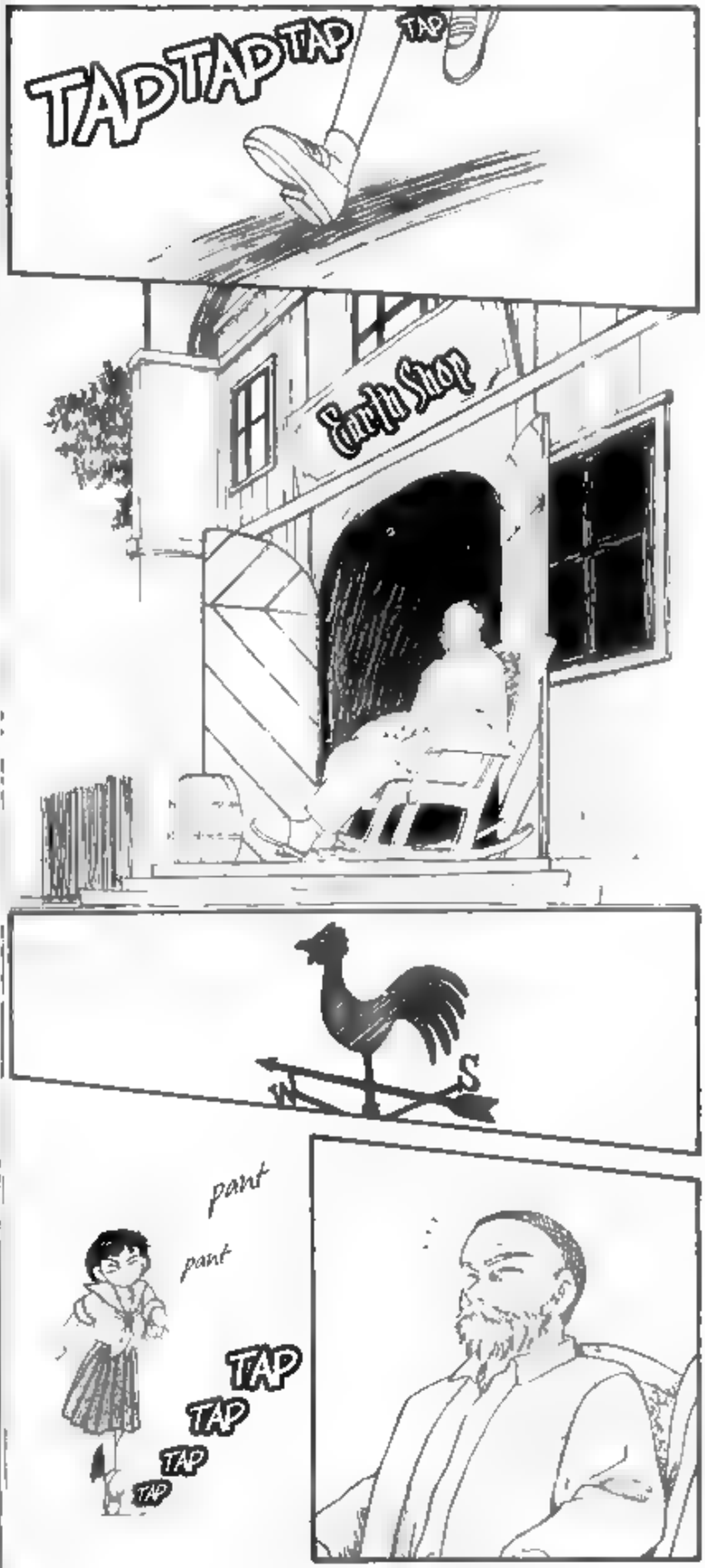
The unexpected!!
GOOD MORNING!
GOOD...

Smile
GO ON, YUUKO.
You were going to apologize, right?
UM...
S... SUGI-MURA?
Hey, hi big deal!
Sorry about that the other day.
I got the strange feeling that I was watching one part of my life end and another one begin.
Sugimura did a good job pretending he didn't know how Yuuko felt about him.

HA, HA, HA.
WHAT A BUNCH OF IDIOTS.
But now everything up till yesterday was different. And nothing after tomorrow will be the same, either
AH, HA, HA.
SOMETIMES YOU'RE JUST UNBELIEVABLE, SHIZUKU!
I JUST HEARD FROM K.NU-CHAN ABOUT THAT GUY YOU WERE TALKING TO THE OTHER DAY
HEY, SHIZU-KU.
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU AND HIM?
OF USHI-WAKAMARU AS AN HISTORICAL FIGURE
AND THAT IS WHAT WE UNDER-STAND
I've only got to put up with this nonsense for 75 more days!
GOOD GRIEF!
NOT YOU, TOO, YUUKO.
IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK!
I want to buy him. . . but he must be expensive.
Though I won't be surprised if he's been sold already.
What a strange thing to think about now.
adieu!

"Mimi wo Sumaseba" Work diary

I started drawing Mimi wo Sumaseba
The following incident took place about the time
Hokaro
Ah, is that a type of panda?
Eh?
While I was out on a walk I ran into a businessman coming home from work
Ooh a raccoon... To tell the truth, I've got six cats at home. As you can imagine, they're quite a handful...
For a guy he sure could chatter on...
I was living of course My apartment was on the next block.
Okay
Good day
Oh, and here's my apartment building
I see. Well, if you don't mind. Here, take this postcard My address is on it.
Um, thanks.
It was beginning to seem like deja vu
He's got to be kidding! This is too much!
I took the photograph on that postcard
It was all just unbelievable
The cats the photograph the glasses
I mean do guys like that really exist?



Shojo Magic

PANT
PANT
DO YOU STILL HAVE THE CAT!?
WELCOME ...
He's here!!
RELIEVED
WHAT A RELIEF!
WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?
IT WAS IN A DREAM I HAD.
I DREAMED...
THAT HE WAS SOLD!

YOU'VE GOT NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT... THE CAT IS NOT FOR SALE
HA, HA, HA. IS THAT RIGHT? THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE UPSET ABOUT?
THAT I CAN'T BUY HIM NO MATTER HOW MUCH I PAY.
BUT THAT ALSO MEANS,
REALLY!?
HE ISN'T!?
WHAT?
NOT WHILE HE'S STILL
WAITING HERE FOR HIS SWEETHEART TO RETURN.
At the time I was working for an import-export company... I often traveled back and forth between Japan and Europe.
The story goes back over fifty years.

On one condition..
One day, in the corner of a coffee house, I discovered this cat
and asked that I hold off selling him until the female cat was created.
The cat was to be part of a set. He was working on the cat's companion.
I spent the next three days begging the owner to sell it to me. Finally he gave in.
But in the meantime, the war broke out and the cat's promised companion never arrived.
I agreed to wait until the cat's companion was sent to me, and returned to Japan with only Sir Cat here.
And yet
My company went bankrupt as well. After the war, I was only able to return to Germany once.
With that information in hand, I searched high and low for him. But he was nowhere to be found.
Do you see here, on the soles of his shoes?
I still have to believe that Sir Cat's sweet heart will someday arrive.
The doll maker inscribed his name

But until
the day comes,
here is where
he will stay.

NOW, LOOK INTO HIS EYES...
TOO MUCH TIME IN THE SUN WILL DAMAGE HIM, SO I DON'T DO IT VERY OFTEN.

His eyes
brimmed over with light!
I ONCE HEARD IT CALLED THE "ROOM OF THE ANGELS."
THE DOLL MAKER, WHEN HE WAS STRETCHING THE FABRIC (OVER THE FRAME), SCRATCHED THE GLASS.
HE CREATED THE EFFECT QUITE BY ACCIDENT.

THAT BRILLIANT SOUND
THAT I THOUGHT I HAD FORGOTTEN, THERE IT WAS AGAIN!

PLEASE COME AGAIN ANY TIME.
CLUNK
THANK YOU, SIR.

OH, THE PAINTING, YOU MEAN?
IT'S SOMETHING MY GRAND-SON DID.
OVER THERE ...
RECENTLY, NOW AND THEN HE HAS REALLY PRODUCED SOME FINE CANVASES. I THOUGHT THIS ONE WOULD ADD TO THE DECOR.
AND HAS BEEN EQUALLY DEVOTED TO HIS ART AS WELL.
EVER SINCE HE WAS A CHILD, HE'S LOVED FAIRY TALES AND FANTA-SIES,
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
HIS GRAND-SONS!
THEIR TASTES IN ART ARE MUCH THE SAME.
EVEN THOUGH THEIR PER-SONALITIES ARE QUITE DIFFERENT ...
HIS OLDER BROTHER, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS ENAMORED BY PHOTO-GRAPHY

Se - i - ji.
Seiji.
It was him, all right.
Seiji
Come to think of it,
the first time we met...
he was reading a fairy tale book, and his eyes were all lit up.
Amasawa Seiji
It really is him...

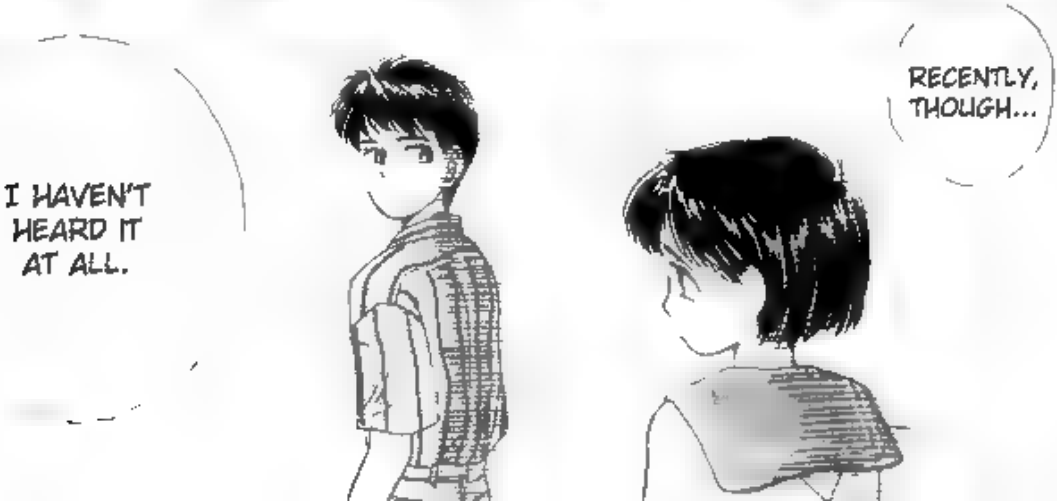
HI.
WE JUST KEEP PASSING BY EACH OTHER LIKE THIS, TWO SHIPS IN THE NIGHT.
FACT IS, I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT YOU.
YOU'RE REALLY A GOOD ARTIST.
AT THE LIB-RARY,
WE MUST HAVE DONE IT DOZENS OF TIMES.
UM ...
OH,
YOU SAW IT ...

Rustle rustle rustle
LAST YEAR, QUITE OUT OF THE BLUE, MY DAD SAID TO ME:
"HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO WASTE YOUR TIME ON THOSE SILLY BOOKS?"
HE SAID THE SAME THING TO MY BROTHER WHEN HE WAS MY AGE.
THE TWO OF THEM HAVE BEEN AT LOGGER-HEADS ON THE SUBJECT EVER SINCE.
BUT THAT'S NOT MY WAY.
SO LATELY I'VE BEEN DOING MY READING, WELL, BEHIND HIS BACK.
STILL,
IT FEELS LIKE I'M DOING SOMETHING WRONG.
BUT THAT'S WEIRD.
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT. I ONLY DRAW AT MY GRANDFATHER'S PLACE, TOO.
MY DAD PROBABLY WANTS ME TO BE A DOCTOR.
BUT
I THINK IT'S WONDERFUL, THE WAY BOTH YOU AND YOUR BROTHER...

AND NO MATTER WHAT ANYBODY SAYS, YOU DON'T GIVE UP ON YOUR DREAMS.
THE WAY YOU DON'T ACCEPT DEFEAT NO MATTER WHAT YOU'RE UP AGA-INST...
HAVE THE TALENT TO EXPRESS YOURSELVES SO WELL.
WHEN YOU PUT IT THAT WAY, IT'S KINDA EMBAR-RASSING.
GEE...
blurting out things like that was more of a way of hiding his shyness.
HMPH
SO WHAT IF IT IS!?
WHENEVER I READ BOOKS...
WHETHER IT'S SOME-THING SILLY OR SOME-THING DEEPLY MOVING...
I EXPERIENCE ALL DIFFERENT KINDS OF FEELINGS.
Though I could understand where he was coming from,

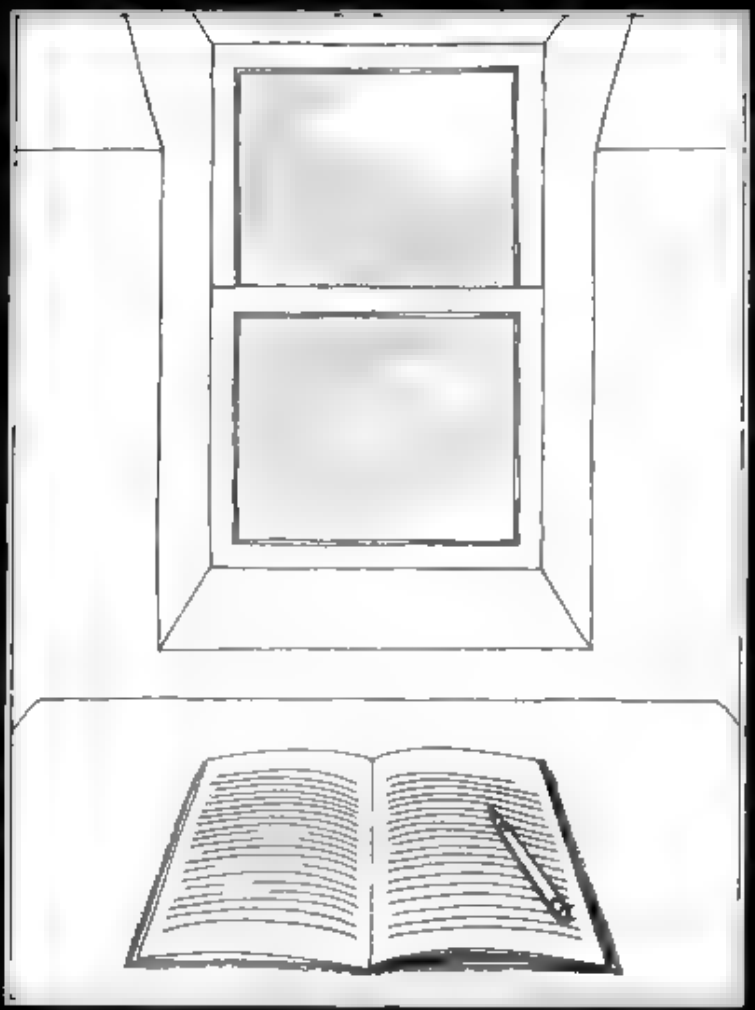
YES, A SOUND
A SOUND?
A SOUND.
I'VE NEVER REALLY UNDER-STOOD WHAT IT MEANT.
AT TIMES LIKE THAT,
I HEAR THIS SOUND.

I FINALLY UNDER-STOOD WHAT IT MEANT.
I THINK
AND LOOKING AT YOUR PAINTING ...
BUT WHEN I WAS IN THE EARTH SHOP, LISTENING TO THE STORY OF SIR CAT,


I HAVEN'T HEARD IT AT ALL.
RECENTLY, THOUGH...

SO, WHY DON'T YOU WRITE THEM, THEN?
FOR SOME REASON,
IT SEEMS THAT JUST READING STORIES ISN'T ENOUGH ANYMORE.
WHAT!?
For some reason, it hadn't ever occurred to me before.
Of course!
YEAH, YOU OUGHT TO WRITE YOUR OWN STORIES.

The solution
was as simple as that!
THANK YOU!



< Mini wo Sumasebe ch0 / end >

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THANK YOU!! ♡

Siana and the entire ShoujoMagic Staff

Do you
believe in
Magic
in a
Young Girl's
Heart...

Shoujo Magic

If You Listen Closely

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Shoujo Magic

It was the kind of afternoon when my feelings danced along with the dust kicked off the avenues by the fall breeze.
SA SA SA SA SA SA SA SA
HMMM ..
The Earth Shop
bassa
AND THIS MAP.
WE'RE GOING TO NEED A COMPASS ...
GREAT!
AND WE'D GET LOST WITHOUT A GOOD LAMP.
LET'S GO!

meow!
BARON!
I've forgotten something. I know I've forgotten something!
wait, we can't leave yet!
The Earth Shop
n-nothing! nothing at all!
WHAT ARE YOU WRITING?
SHIZUKU!
FWIP
HEH HEH HEH.

What!?
SO BE SURE TO REMEMBER IT!
THIS MATH FORMULA IS GOING TO BE ON THE MIDTERM EXAM.
BP=2PC
AQ=1Q
A
B
P
THIS IS IT! I KNEW IT WAS HERE.
old
reached over and inside
the girl had never opened
returned to the Earth Shop
forgot
A MIRROR IN WHICH SHINES THE SOUL OF SHE WHOSE WHEREABOUTS I DO NOT KNOW.
SOMETHING PRECIOUS AND IRREPLACEABLE.
WHAT IS IT?
and so
but
young lass
began
And so began the adventures of Sir Cat and the young lass.

The person I had seen leaving with Sir Cat was in fact myself!
WAIT, DON'T GO!
ADIEU!
As it turned out, I had seen the beginning of the story in my dream.

AND I WAS WORRIED THAT I HAD LOST HIM.

or an adventure spanning the continents ...
A European romance, perhaps ...?
Library
HOWEVER ...
SO THEY'VE LEFT THE EARTH SHOP. NOW WHAT?
The People of Germany
Puppets of the World
The Second World War
Famous Museums in Europe
West Germany

CLANG
CLANG
This project had ground to a halt pretty quickly.
WHAT TO DO?
CHATTER
CHATTER
HOW ABOUT WE STOP AT ISEYA AND GRAB SOMETHING TO EAT?
HEY, LET'S GO.
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR TSUKISHIMA, SHE SHOT OUT OF HERE LIKE A BULLET A FEW MINUTES AGO
LIKE A BULLET?
GLANCE
GLANCE
WHERE'S SHIZUKU?
ZOOM
SHE'S PROBABLY OFF TO THE LIBRARY AGAIN.
SOMETHING FUNNY'S GOING ON HERE.

The Earth Shop
GOOD AFTERNOON, GRANDPA!
Gah!
WHAT DID YOU "GAH!" AT ME FOR?
NOTHING, REALLY... HEH HEH HEH.
Slip of the tongue, I guess.
HEY, THERE, I CAME TO SEE YOU!
Welcome back!
HMM, I RUSHED OVER AS SOON AS SCHOOL ENDED, AND YET YOU'RE HERE BEFORE ME...

Hey!!
YOU SKIPPED OUT ON CLEANING DUTY!
YEAH, SO I HAD THIS PAINTING I WANTED TO FINISH.
I WANT TO SEE IT!
OH, CRUD.
I WANT TO SEE IT!
Show it to me, PLEASE!
IT'S NO GOOD. I HAVEN'T GOTTEN IT RIGHT, YET.
GEEZ
I GUESS YOU CAN ...
AY, I'M SO LUCKY!
OKAY, OKAY.

WATCH YOUR STEP.
IT'S UP THERE?
WEIRDO.
POP
WOW, WHAT A TOTALLY COOL HIDEOUT!

IT'S GREAT!
Hmm? ...But who is it?
She looks familiar.
Maybe some actress
AFTER THREE MORE DAYS OR SO.
SO YOU'RE ALMOST DONE?
Dick
ACK!
IS THERE A MODEL FOR THIS?
WELL... UM... SORT OF, THIS PERSON I KNOW.
HUH.

Her deep blue eyes...

This picture was filled with drama.

The fish gliding through the water ...

After seeing this,

I feel a bit encouraged again.

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, HOW'S YOUR WRITING GOING?

WELL,

I SORT OF DEVELOPED WRITER'S BLOCK.

I THOUGHT THAT MAYBE IF I CAME HERE SOMETHING NEW WOULD BUBBLE UP IN MY HEAD.

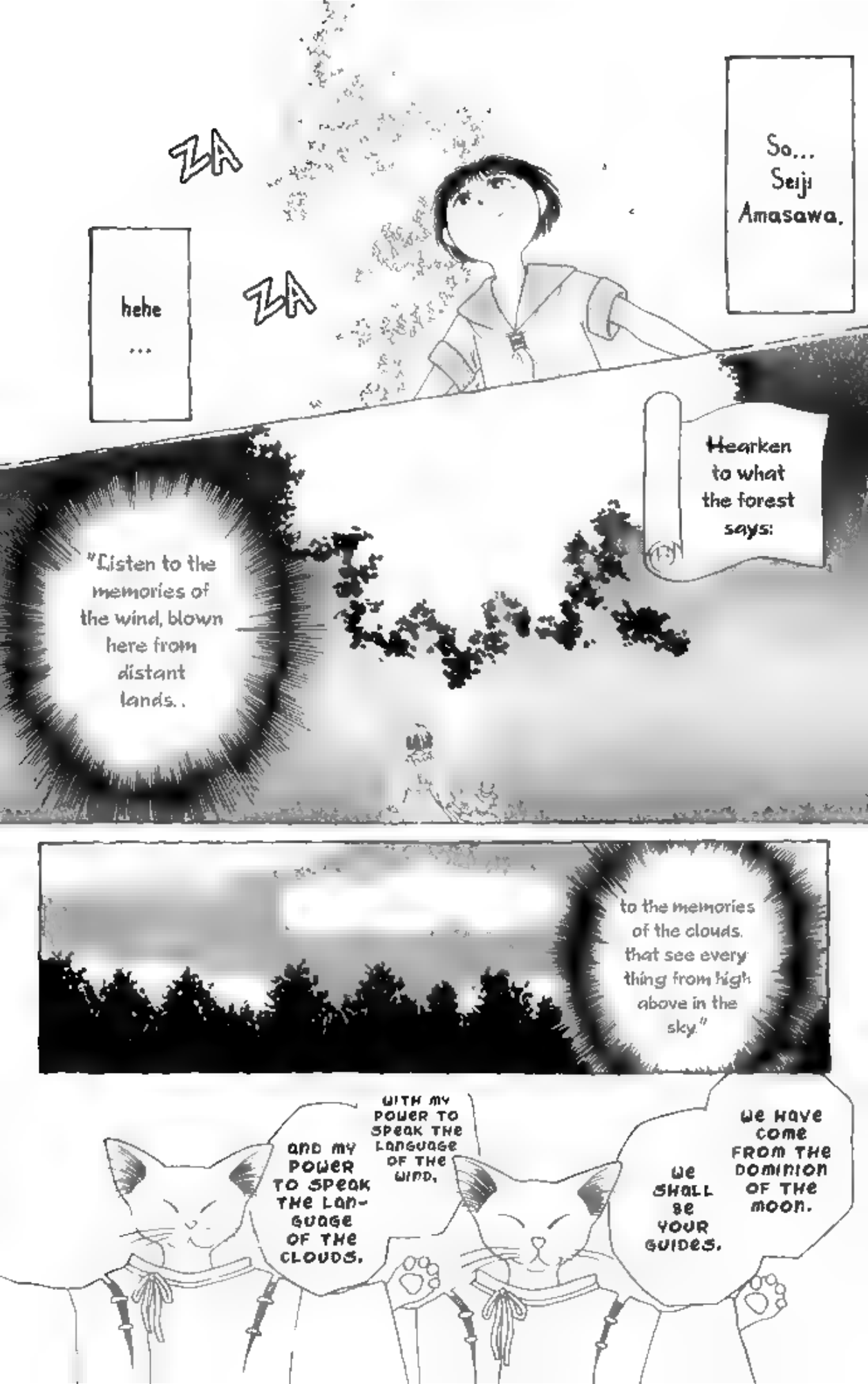
AFTER SEEING THIS PICTURE ...

YOU KNOW, IT REALLY MOVED ME.

Shoujo Magic

THANKS.
THIS OLD CRAP I DON'T SHOW TO ANY-BODY!!
COVERS UP
No!
HEY, THERE'S A BUNCH OF PAINTINGS OVER HERE!
HOW AM I BEING A DOG IN THE MANGER? YOU SHOULD WATCH WHAT YOU SAY, OR CERTAIN PEOPLE MIGHT THINK YOU'RE BEING A BRAT.
TSK
NOW YOU'RE JUST BEING A DOG IN THE MANGER!
HEY, LUNA!
NO, IT'S MOON.
meow
POP

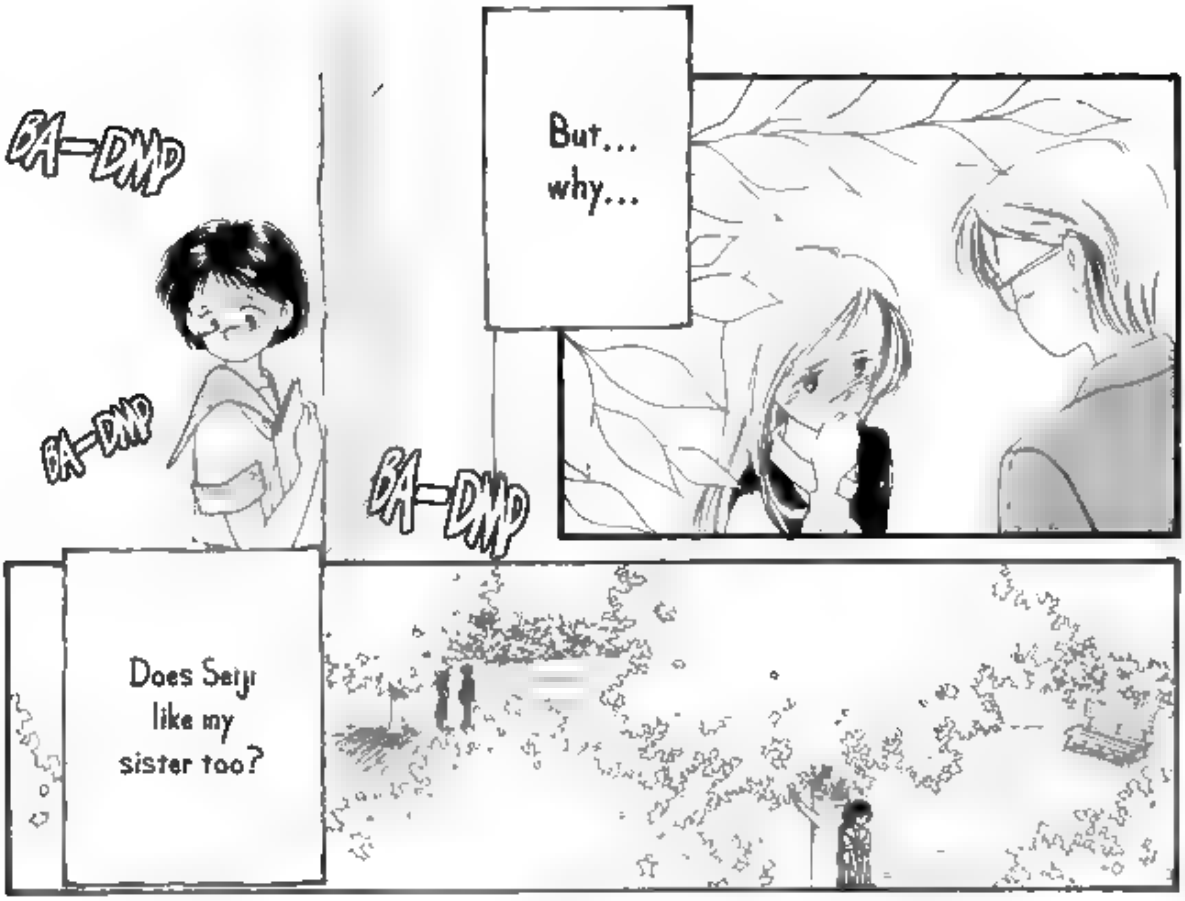
WELL, COME ON UP, LUNA.
IS THAT SO? HUH.
NO, IT'S LUNA.
MOON'S TOO TIMID TO VENTURE OUT ON HIS OWN. HE'S AT HOME.
THAT'S RIGHT, THAT'S RIGHT. YOU GUYS WERE HERE, TOO.
meow
HEH HEH
ONCE I'VE FINISHED WRITING MY STORY ...
WHAT'S THAT?
OH, THERE WAS SOME-THING I WANTED TO ASK YOU.
I WAS HOPING YOU'D PAINT MY PICTURE.
SURE.
REALLY? YOU KNOW, I'LL HOLD YOU TO THAT.


ZA
ZA
So... Seiji Amasawa.
hehe ...
Hearken to what the forest says:
"Listen to the memories of the wind, blown here from distant lands..
to the memories of the clouds that see every thing from high above in the sky."
AND MY POWER TO SPEAK THE LANGUAGE OF THE CLOUDS.
WITH MY POWER TO SPEAK THE LANGUAGE OF THE WIND.
WE SHALL BE YOUR GUIDES.
WE HAVE COME FROM THE DOMINION OF THE MOON.

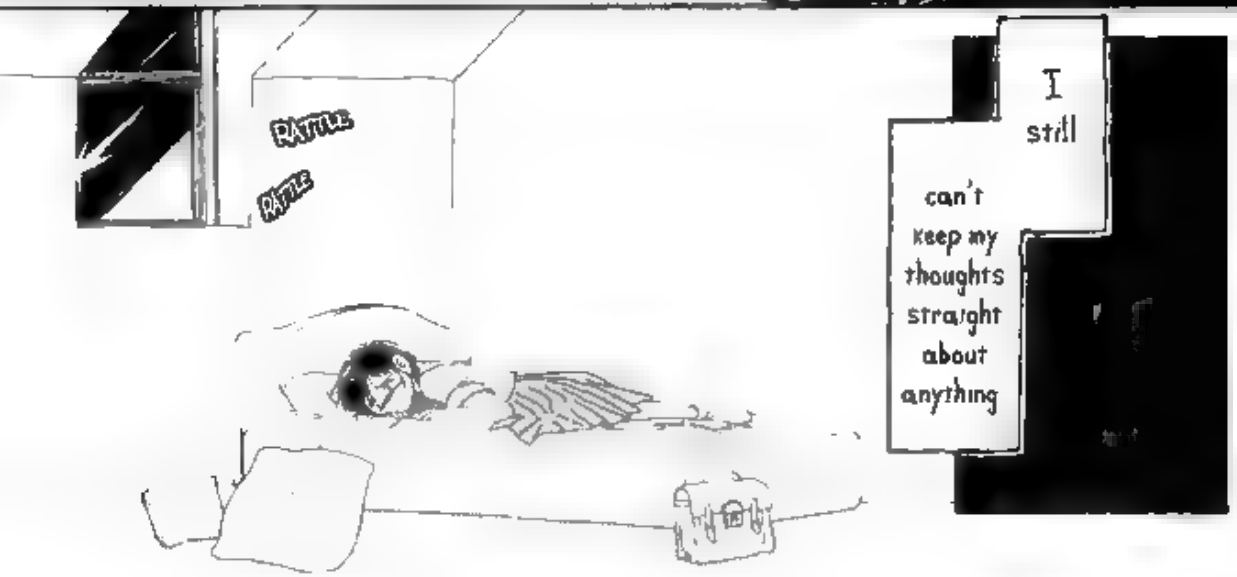
And so began our journey with the first of our companions.
AND WHAT IS THIS, BUT A CAT LORD JUST LIKE OURSELVES!
THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH.
And the wind spoke its language in a soulful melody.
The Cat Lords would sing. Cry as the gales cried, dance as the breezes danced.
Who's that?
It's Kouji!

I guess he must be on his way to the Earth Shop.
I'll sneak up on him and give him a real surprise!
tap tap tap tap tap
No, he's with somebody.
IT'S SHIO!
J-JUST A MINUTE!
I... I've got a feeling about this ...
What— —!?

SHOCKED
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
And she's probably the one who told Kouji about me.
SHIZUKU-CHAN!
Now that I think about it, Shio was really happy to get that postcard.
HE'S A GREAT GUY!
I don't think I'm supposed to be standing here watching this.
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
The painting!
OF COURSE!
It looks like Shio!


BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
But... why...
Does Seiji like my sister too?

Rustle
howww!


RATTLE
RATTLE
I still can't keep my thoughts straight about anything

I can't stand it.
My brain is turning to mush.
FWIP...
...
I'M NOT HUNGRY!
SHIZUKU! IT'S TIME FOR DINNER!
JUST WRITE IT ALL DOWN AND SEE WHAT YOU COME UP WITH
THANKS, SEIJI
AH UM
SEIJI-KUN!?
SE

Se..
Seiji!!
B...
But!
RISE
SEI-
IT'S EIGHT O'CLOCK YOU'D BETTER HURRY!
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT SAUSAGES?
WELL, THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU SKIP DINNER... YOU END UP DREAMING ABOUT SAUSAGES!
OH NO, I'M GOING TO BE LATE FOR SCHOOL!
It wasn't about sausages
MUNCH
MUNCH

DAAAAT
Oh NO!
No!
Just thinking about him makes
my ears turn all red!
YEAH, YOU SEEM PRETTY OUT OF IT TODAY.
SOME-THING WRONG?
AND AFTER THAT, YOU KNOW, THE TEACHER WAS LIKE ...
...SHI-ZUKU?
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU? SOMETHING WRONG?
?
ZIP!

DO YOU NEED SOMETHING, MISS TSUKISHIMA?
WHAT'S GOING ON, SHIZUKU?
?
DOKI DOKI DOKI DOKI DOKI
Staff Office
OH, SORRY, EXCUSE US!
UM ...
AH ...
ISN'T THIS WHAT YOU'D CALL BEING IN LOVE?
SEIJI IS A NICE GUY, YOU KNOW.
N-NOT THAT
THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHAT HE WAS REALLY LIKE
YEAH ...
BUT I USED TO HATE HIM.

AND THAT GOES FOR ME, TOO.
I'VE DECIDED ...
YOU'VE JUST GOT TO BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF, SHIZUKU.
Oh, now I see all of your good qualities!
BUT DOESN'T IT SEEM TWO-FACED, ALL OF A SUDDEN, TO GO:
YUUKO.
TO TAKE YOUR ADVICE
AND FIND OUT FROM SUGIYAMA FOR MYSELF.

IT'D BE BETTER IF HE JUST CAME OUT AND REJECTED ME.
I KNOW IT WOULDN'T WORK. MY HEART ACHES SO BAD.
SO I'VE BEEN TELLING MYSELF ...
IT'D BE FINE IF WE COULD JUST GO ON BEING FRIENDS... BUT...

THE PROBLEM IS, I'M STILL IN LOVE WITH HIM.

The problem, Yuuko, is that Seji
probably has a crush on my sister.
SCREECH
HI.
OH ...
NOTHING IN PARTICULAR. I WAS WONDERING IF YOU WERE GOING TO BE COMING BY TODAY.
I CAN'T TODAY
WHAT?

Shojo Magic

G...
GOOD-BYE!
HEY!
TOMOR-ROW...
MORNING ..
OH. WELL,
HOW ABOUT TOMOR-ROW MORN-ING?
It was awful.
I didn't want him to see me like this.
I'm so sorry, Seiji-kun ...
WHAT'S WITH HER?
DRAT.

I do like him ...
Even when he says mean things to me, he really is a nice guy.
And the way he holds onto that special world of his...
He ...
... PROBABLY EVER SINCE THEN .
Library Card
the Adventures of the Hare Vessel
Date
Name
Due Date
Mariko Naka
Takayuki Fukuda
Junko Maruse
Seiji Amasawa
Shizuku Tsukasa
What an idiot I've been ...
... an idiot.

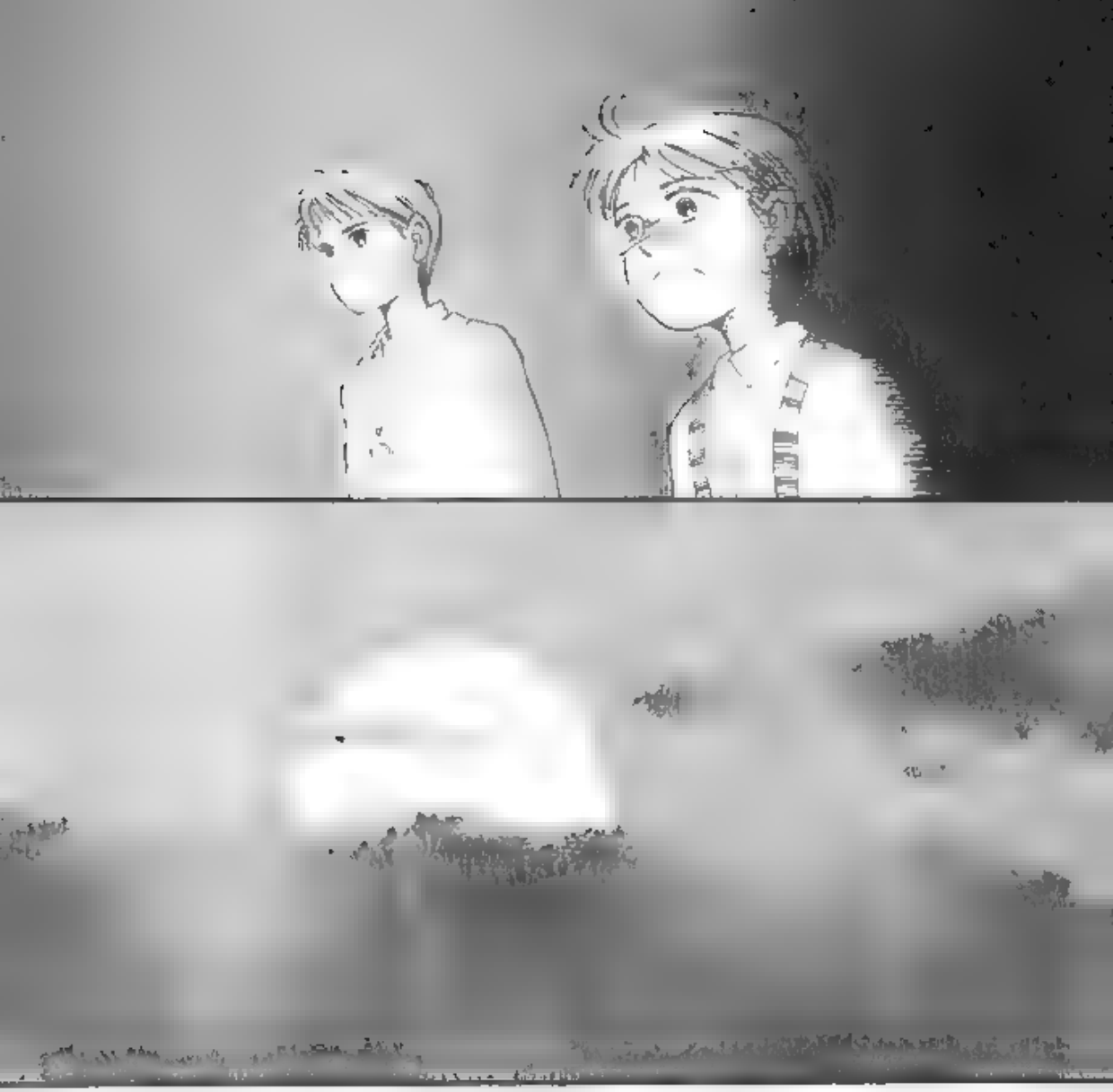
TIC
TOC
TIC TIC TOC
What time is it?
I must have fallen asleep.
Is it the newspaper boy, I wonder?
There's somebody at the gate
Why so early in the morning?
Seiji!?
Sei... !!!
What's going on!?

MORNING ..
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
CAN YOU COME WITH ME?
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO SHOW YOU.
YOU RODE ALL THE WAY HERE TO SHOW ME SOMETHING?
AND YOU EVEN FOUND OUT WHERE I LIVE.
My face must be bright red,
I LOOKED IT UP IN THE SCHOOL DIRECTORY.
NORMALLY I'D BE ASLEEP THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING.
but I hope it's too dark for him to tell.
YEAH,
I THOUGHT SO TOO,
BUT ..
WE MANAGED TO SEE EACH OTHER ANYWAY.
So how could I not believe in fate?

WHIRR
RR
My heart was beating like a drum.
JUST A BIT FURTHER.
BA-DMP
BA-DMP
HOW FAR IS IT?
BA-DMP
But what am I supposed to do now?
AREN'T WE ALMOST TO THE EARTH SHOP BY NOW?
WE'RE HERE.
SCRITCH

IT'LL BE BETTER IF YOU STAND OVER HERE.
UM ...
THAT PAINTING ...
SEIJI-KUN,
THE MODEL YOU USED ...
WHAT ABOUT IT?

OF COURSE I DID!
YOU FIGURED IT OUT?
...
ME?
YEAH, IT WAS YOU.
Me!?
SE!...
AH
IN ANOTHER MINUTE OR SO.

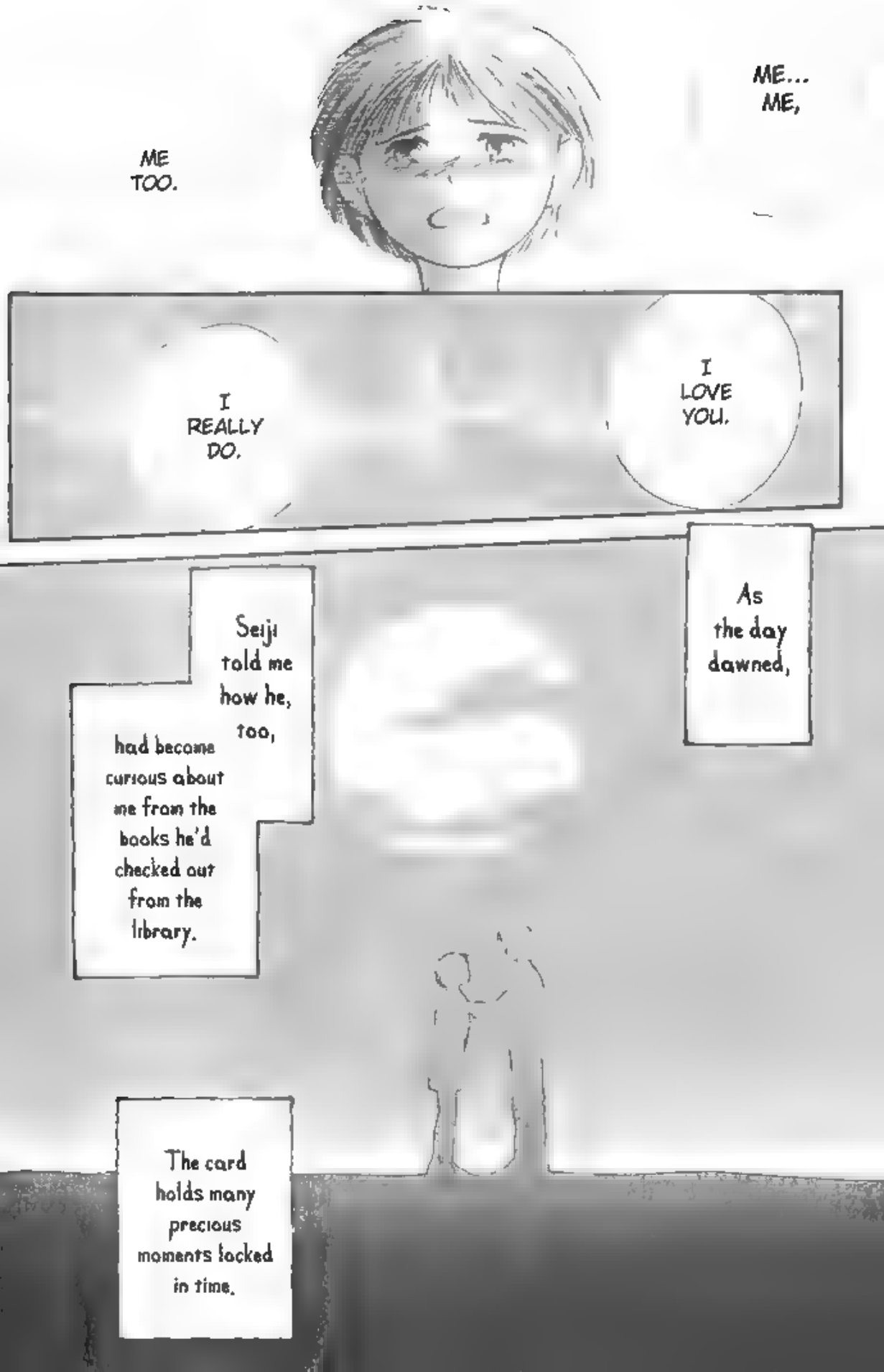


Shoujo Magic

SHIZUKU,
SEIJI, I, I...
LISTEN!!

I LOVE YOU!
WHAT!?

I PROMISED MYSELF
THAT IF WE MET TODAY I WOULD TELL YOU
THAT I LOVE YOU.

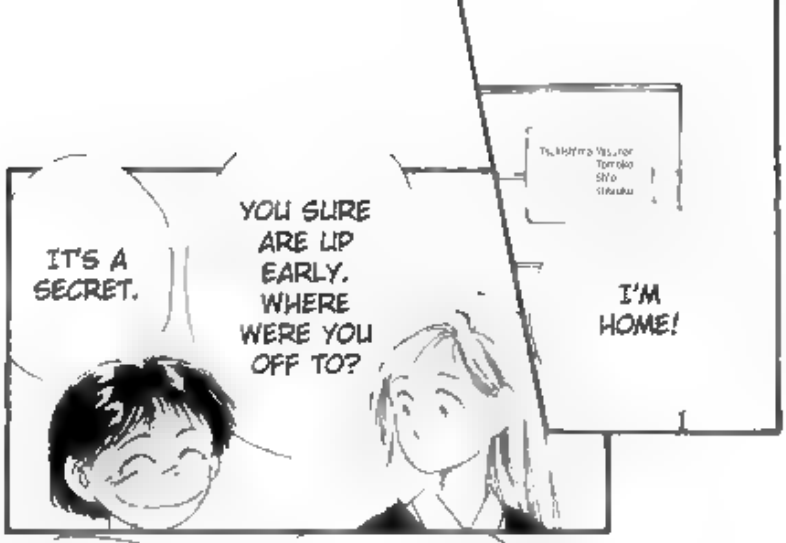

ME...
ME,
ME
TOO.
I
LOVE
YOU.
I
REALLY
DO.
As
the day
dawned,
Seiji
told me
how he,
too,
had become
curious about
me from the
books he'd
checked out
from the
library.
The card
holds many
precious
moments locked
in time.

☆ Airships

Ever since I was a child, I've been thrilled at the sight of a blimp floating up there in the sky. I feel like I want to run after it and follow it wherever it goes. Even today, I get that same impulse. Someday I plan to take a ride on one.

☆ Black Cats

I m a cat lover I'm especially bewitched by the mysterious presence of a black cat A wh le back, I nursed back to health an njured tortoiseshell cat However, as soon as he got well he took off I was lonely without him, so I got a raccoon (araiguma). They're a bit rare, but it seems that more and more people are raising them When I take him out for a walk, I tell people it's a tanuki (raccoon dog).



People just like myself.

And as their journey continued, they were able to help many people along the way.

REALLY!?
I wanna go! I wanna go!
KOUJI'S GRANDPA
AT THE EARTH SHOP KNOWS THE GUY WHO OPERATES IT.
AH, HERE THEY COME.
HEY LUNA! MOON! IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
Overcoming countless obstacles ...

One day,
"AT LONG LAST WE HAVE FOUND EACH OTHER!"
I know the paths of our two star-struck lovers will cross again.
And you will surely hear them say it...

...if you only listen closely.

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THANK YOU!! ♡

Siana and the entire ShoujoMagic Staff